



If the local authority has made the arrangement, or the person who is caring for the child is an approved foster carer or has legal guardianship, this is not private fostering.

**REMEMBER: If you are planning a private fostering arrangement or if your child is currently being privately fostered, then you must let the local authority (Herefordshire Council) know.**



## What to do if you are aware of a private fostering arrangement

Don't worry, it is allowed but you do need to tell Herefordshire Council. Local authorities have a legal duty to ensure that all children who are privately fostered are cared for in a safe and suitable environment.

To notify us of a private fostering arrangement in Herefordshire, or if you are unsure if your situation is private fostering, please call Herefordshire Council on: 01432 260800  
Or Email: [CYPD@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:CYPD@herefordshire.gov.uk)



For more information about private fostering in Herefordshire visit [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/privatefostering](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/privatefostering)



# Looking after somebody else's child?



 [hfdscouncil](https://www.facebook.com/hfdscouncil)

[herefordshire.gov.uk](http://herefordshire.gov.uk)

HFD4102



**Is somebody else looking after your child?**

**Are you planning to look after someone else's child for 28 days or more?**

**Do you know a child who is living with somebody who is not a close family member?**

If so, this may be a private fostering arrangement. The law says you must tell your local authority. This is so they can make sure the child/ren are being well looked after and to provide advice and support for everyone involved in the arrangement.

Private fostering is when a child or young person under 16 years old - or under 18 if they have a disability - lives with someone for 28 days or more who is not a close relative, guardian, or person with parental responsibility. A close relative would be a grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle or step-parent. These are private, informal arrangements, usually made directly between the child's parent and the carer.

