

Children who are cared for on a full-time basis by people who are not their parents or a relative* may be in private foster care.

Private foster care occurs when a child under 16 (or under 18 if disabled) is cared for, and provided with accommodation, by an adult who is not a relative*, for 28 days or more, by private arrangement between parent and carer.

The local council has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of privately fostered children.

*The Children Act defines 'relative' in relation to a child as a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt. They could be a full or half relation, and could be related by marriage. The term also includes a step-parent. A cohabitee of the mother or father would not qualify as a relative, neither would extended family such as great aunt/uncle or parent's cousins. Where children are cared for by a 'relative', the situation is classified as 'family and friends care' and different arrangements apply.

Copies of this publication can be obtained from

Placements Team, Triangle House, 328-330 High Road, Wembley HA9 6AZ
 020 8937 4522 (9am-5pm Monday-Friday)
 020 8863 5250 (evening, weekends and Bank Holidays)
www.brent.gov.uk

This booklet contains answers to frequently asked questions about private fostering and adoption. If you would like a summary in another language please tick the appropriate box, fill in the form and return it to the address below.

PLEASE TICK

اس بروشور میں سوالات پر متعلقہ جوابات اور متعلقہ سوالات پر جوابات کی ایک خلاصہ ہے۔ اگر آپ کو دوسری زبان میں خلاصہ کی ضرورت ہے تو براہ کرم مناسب خانے میں تیک لگائیں اور فارم پُر کر کے واپس بھیجیں۔

FARSI

આ બુકિટમાં સવાલોનાં જવાબો અને સવાલોનાં જવાબોની એક સારાંશ છે. જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં સારાંશની જરૂર હોય તો કૃપા કરીને યોગ્ય જગ્યાએ ટિક લગાવો અને ફોર્મ પૂરું કરીને પરત મોકલો.

GUJARATI

બ્રાઉચર નીચેના પ્રશ્નોનાં જવાબો અને પ્રશ્નોનાં જવાબોની એક સારાંશ છે। જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં સારાંશની જરૂર હોય તો કૃપા કરીને યોગ્ય જગ્યાએ ટિક લગાવો અને ફોર્મ પૂરું કરીને પરત મોકલો।

HINDI

ਇਸ ਕਿਤਾਬਕੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਈਵੇਟ ਫਾਸਟਰ ਕੇਅਰ ਅਤੇ ਗੇਟ ਟੈਟ ਬਾਰੇ ਆਰਜ਼ਰ ਪੁੱਛੇ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਸਵਾਲਾਂ ਦੇ ਜਵਾਬ ਲਿਖੇ ਹੋਏ ਹਨ। ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਗੇਟ ਟੈਟ ਵਿੱਚ ਬਣੀਆਂ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਵੀ ਵੇਖੋ। ਉਚਿਤ ਥਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਟਿੱਕ ਲਗਾਓ ਅਤੇ ਫਾਰਮ ਵਾਪਸ ਭੇਜੋ।

PUNJABI

Buuggan waxa ku qoran Jawaabaha su'aalaha had iyo jeer la iska weydiyo carruur haynta iyo carruur korsiga sharciga ah. Haddii aad nuqul af-kale ku rabto isga oo kooban fadlan sax sanduuqa munaasibka ah, buuxi foomka una soo dir cinwaanka hoos ku xusan.

SOMALI

આ બુકિટમાં સવાલોનાં જવાબો અને સવાલોનાં જવાબોની એક સારાંશ છે। જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં સારાંશની જરૂર હોય તો કૃપા કરીને યોગ્ય જગ્યાએ ટિક લગાવો અને ફોર્મ પૂરું કરીને પરત મોકલો।

TAMIL

یہ بروشور بچوں کے بارے میں متعلقہ سوالات پر جوابات اور متعلقہ سوالات پر جوابات کی ایک خلاصہ ہے۔ اگر آپ کو دوسری زبان میں خلاصہ کی ضرورت ہے تو براہ کرم مناسب خانے میں تیک لگائیں اور فارم پُر کر کے واپس بھیجیں۔

URDU

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Return this form to;

Placements Team, Triangle House, 328-330 High Road, Wembley Middlesex HA9 9AZ

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This brochure is available in audio tape and large print

Private Fostering



Do you look after someone else's child for more than 28 days at once?



Private fostering situations could involve:

- children sent to this country for education or health care by birth parents living overseas
- children living with a friend's family as a result of parental separation, divorce or arguments at home
- teenagers living with the family of a boyfriend or girlfriend
- children whose parents' study or work involves unsociable hours, which makes it difficult for them to use ordinary day care or after school care.

If you are privately fostering a child or children you should read the next few pages of this leaflet. They will help you understand what you must do as a private foster carer.



What must I do if I intend to foster a child privately?

The law requires that you tell Brent Council at least six weeks before the arrangement begins. If the arrangement is made in an emergency the notification must be made within 48 hours.

Make sure the child's parents give you as much information as possible about the child, including their health, eating preferences, school, hobbies, religion and ethnic or cultural background. This will help you understand the child and take better care of him or her.

It is an offence not to notify the Brent Council within the time specified. If in doubt you should seek advice from the Brent Council.

How can I get help while I am privately fostering?

You can contact the Placements Team on **020 8937 4522** for advice on caring for the child(ren) you are privately fostering.



Will I get any support?

This may include a range of support services and, in exceptional cases, financial support. There may be local support networks for carers.

Can I claim social security benefits and how do I go about it?

You may be able to claim tax credits and/or social security benefits such as Child Benefit, and possibly Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance, if you receive Child Benefit. Contact Brent Council Benefits Agency Office on **020 8937 XXXX** or go to **www.brent.gov.uk**



What if the child leaves my care?

You must tell the Placements Team within 48 hours that the child has left your care. You must also give the name and address of the person who will be caring for the child.

Where do I go for further information?

If you require further information on the contents of this leaflet, please contact the Placements Team - the phone number is **020 8937 4522** (9am-5pm Monday-Friday) or **0208 863 5250** (evening, weekends and Bank Holidays), or go to **www.brent.gov.uk**