

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 holiday).

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 بروکچر میں سوالات پر جواب دیے گئے ہیں۔ اگر آپ کو اس بروکچر کے جوابات کسی اور زبان میں چاہیں تو براہ کرم اس بروکچر کے ساتھ ساتھ یہ بھی لکھیں کہ آپ کس زبان میں جواب چاہتے ہیں۔

FARSI

આ બુકલેટમાં સવાલોનાં જવાબો આપવામાં આવેલા છે. જો તમને આ બુકલેટનાં જવાબો કોઈ અન્ય ભાષામાં જાણીએ તો આ ભાષામાં જવાબો આપવા માટે આ બુકલેટ સાથે આપણને જણાવવામાં આવેલા ભાષામાં જવાબ લખવાનું કહ્યું છે.

GUJARATI

आइवट नीच पर फास्टिंग और गोड लेन के संबंधित कथ्या पृष्ठ जान वाले प्रश्न के उत्तर इस पुस्तिका में दिए गए हैं। अपनी भाषा में पुस्तिका पाने के लिए कृपया अपना केंद्र के स्थान में टिक का निधान लया कर यह फार्म पूरे, इस निम्नलिखित पते पर भेजें।

HINDI

ਇਸ ਕਿਤਾਬਕੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਖੁਸ਼ੀਵੇਂਟ ਪਾਲਣਾ ਕਰਨ ਅਤੇ ਗੇਟ ਲੈਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਆਰਗਨ ਪ੍ਰਭੇ ਜਾਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਸਮਾਜ ਦੇ ਸਮਾਜ ਲਿਖਿ ਹੋਏ ਹਨ ਜੋ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਸਾਰਾਮ ਵਿਖੇ ਹੋਟ ਹੋਣੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਬਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਚਿਤ ਖਾਨੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਜੱਗੀ ਦਾ ਨਿਰਾਕ ਲਾਏ, ਚਾਰਜ ਛਰ ਕੇ ਜੋਲਲੇ ਪਨੇ ਬਿਨੇ ਕੋਰ ਵਿੱਚਿ।

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 બુકલેટમાં સવાલોનાં જવાબો આપવામાં આવેલા છે. જો તમને આ બુકલેટનાં જવાબો કોઈ અન્ય ભાષામાં જાણીએ તો આ ભાષામાં જવાબો આપવા માટે આ બુકલેટ સાથે આપણને જણાવવામાં આવેલા ભાષામાં જવાબ લખવાનું કહ્યું છે.

TAMIL

یہ بروکچر میں سوالات پر جواب دیے گئے ہیں۔ اگر آپ کو اس بروکچر کے جوابات کسی اور زبان میں چاہیں تو براہ کرم اس بروکچر کے ساتھ ساتھ یہ بھی لکھیں کہ آپ کس زبان میں جواب چاہتے ہیں۔

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



Is **someone**
else looking after
your 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.
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If your child or children are being privately fostered then you should read the next few pages as they will help you to understand what you should do as the parent of a privately fostered child.



What must I do if someone else is privately fostering my child?

It is your responsibility as the parent of a privately fostered child to ensure that the proposed private fostering placement is suitable for your child

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.

Knowing where your child is will help the council to make sure he or she is being well cared for. If you do not inform the council they may not be in a position to help your children from abuse or neglect. Although the council will not be as directly involved with your child as the carer, it has a duty to satisfy itself that the welfare of your child is satisfactorily safeguarded and promoted.

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

What should I tell the carer?

Give the person who is to care for your child as much information as possible about your child, including their health, eating preferences, school, hobbies, religion and ethnic or cultural backgrounds. This will help the carer to understand your child and take better care of him or her.

Does this mean I am giving up all rights to my child?

No. You remain the person with parental responsibility for your child and should continue to be involved in all decisions concerning your child's development. It is very important that you remain in frequent contact with your child.

What will the local council do for my child?

The local council has a duty to find out whether the carer is suitable to care for your child. They will make regular visits to see your child, and they will give help and advice to the carer when it is needed. This is very important as in some cases a parent may not be in a position to find out much about how their child is being cared for.



What if I decide to change my carer?

Brent Council is there to make sure that your child is living in a safe environment and is properly cared for. They can only do this if they know where your child is. It is your responsibility to tell the council and notify them of any change of carer or address.

What if I can't find out what's happening to my child?

If the carer is not giving you enough information about your child, or you are unhappy with the standard of care he or she is receiving, contact your Brent Council. They will do everything possible to help you, and to safeguard and promote the welfare of your child.

