

You'll still need to check things out with your parents. They're still responsible for you. Without their permission the new people looking after you can't:

- X** change your name
- X** change your school
- X** move you to a new address or another family
- X** take you on holiday either in this country or abroad.

Just remember that a social worker or a family worker will visit you every six weeks to check that everything is going well for you. They will come more often if you need them to or you can chat with them over the phone.

**Tell them if you're not happy or if something is bothering you.**

Every six months a meeting will take place to check that everything is going well and to make any changes if needed. Your parents will be invited to this meeting and it's good if you attend so you can say what you think.



#### Want to talk to us?



Telephone **0300 123 6720** ask and to speak to a children's social worker.



[cypreferrals@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:cypreferrals@lancashire.gov.uk)



[www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk)

# Private Fostering

[www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk)

## Children and young person's guide



# What is Private Fostering?



You are being privately fostered if you are under 16 and you are being looked after for 28 days or more by someone you aren't closely related to.

Your parent/s or carer/s would have arranged for you to be looked after and they should make sure you are ok.

A social worker will also come to check that everything is all right for you and that you are happy to live with your new carers.

**The social worker will ask you some questions and it is important that you answer honestly and say exactly how you feel. To give you some examples, you might be asked if:**

- you are happy to stay
- you can get to school and home again from where you are living now
- you think the house is suitable for you to live in
- your parent/s are staying in touch with you
- everything is being done to help you live happily and safely
- your religious, cultural or medical needs have been sorted out.

**The social worker will also want to talk to the people looking after you to check that you are being looked after properly. They will be asked if they are:**

- meeting your needs which includes feeding you, keeping you warm and giving you a bed to sleep in
- helping you with your education and making sure you are going to school
- looking after your medical needs, for example, would they take you to a doctor or a dentist

