

Private Fostering Process Map

FAMILY CONNECT
 On receipt of a Private Fostering referral / notification FC safeguarding Advisor to create CONTACT and collate relevant information / establish parental consent for PF arrangement / undertake relevant agency checks

Threshold met for Child in Need

Threshold met for Child in Need: -

Joint working between CPFS & F & F Team – the only exception to joint working and the completion of a C & F will be where children have come from abroad to join Host Families.

Family & Friends Worker will undertake initial statutory visit within 7 days of receipt of notification jointly with CPFS Social Worker

Family and Friends Team will undertake the PFAAR (within 42 working days) – assessing the suitability of carers and placement.

CPFS will complete C & F assessment (within 45 working days) – this assessment should include ensuring parents / carers with PR are involved in planning for the child and exploring whether the child’s needs may be more appropriately met by providing services to the child and family at home.

Follow up tasks to be completed by:

Fostering Business Support Team
 Add PF3 to protocol for private foster carer/s and PF7 to Child/Young Person’s file:
 Add checks to checks section of private foster carer/s details on protocol

CPFS
 Complete joint visit with the Family and Friends Worker whilst the C & F and PFAAR are in process.

Should C & F determine a CIN Plan is required CPFS will develop and review the CIN Plan
 Joint visits will be completed where possible with the Family and Friends Worker to minimise disruption for the PF child and carers within each six weeks for the first year & within each twelve weeks thereafter

At the point where it is agreed between CPFS and the Family and Friend’s Team that a CIN Plan is no longer required the case will transfer to the Family and Friends Team.

Family & Friends Team
 Will be responsible for recording all Reg 8 visits to the child and carer.

When PFAAR has been completed and decision made that the placement is satisfactory:
 PFAAR and C & F will be presented to Permanence Panel for Approval of the PF arrangement.

F & F Team to develop a training plan for the PF carer and support plan for the child / young person

NB*
 All children subject to a private fostering arrangement for over 9 months will be formally reviewed by the Family and Friends Team Manager for the child/young person’s case to determine permanency options for the child e.g. alternative Orders.

Children whose private fostering arrangement is coming to an end at age 16 years must have a discharge planning meeting at 15 years and 3/4s to ensure that any post 16 needs are referred onto appropriate agencies and an exit plan provided in writing as to where to access services if they remain in need of support but are not eligible for continued support under private fostering. This will be arranged by the Family and Friends Team and will include all relevant agencies.

Where CPFS are no longer involved and new safeguarding concerns are identified

Family & Friends hold case consultation with CPFS to inform appropriate and proportionate response

- Possible outcomes of consultation
1. Threshold met for no other social work involvement.
 2. Strategy Discussion
 3. End of Private Fostering Arrangement

A privately fostered child MAY be regarded as a child in need (if not CP) and all support services available to support children in need should be made available to them