

Fostering Service Monitoring and notifications

Responsibilities for social workers and team managers for a child or young person in foster care



What is Fostering Schedule 6 reporting?

These are matters to be monitored by the registered manager for the fostering service. These must be reported and recorded with further advice, and a follow up to be provided where appropriate.

What type of matters fall under Schedule 6 reporting?

The following fall under Sechedule 6 reporting:

- Compliance with the child's care plan.
- All accidents, injuries and illnesses.
- Complaints in relation and their outcomes.
- Any allegations or suspicions of abuse or neglect and the outcome of any investigation.
- Recruitment records and required checks of new workers.
- Notifications of events listed in Schedule 7.
- Any child missing from a foster parent's home without permission.
- Use of any measures of control, restraint or discipline.
- Medication, medical treatment and first-aid administered.
- Where applicable, the standard of any education provided by the fostering service.
- Records of assessments.

What is Fostering Schedule 7 reporting?

These are 'notifiable' incidents listed below which must be reported by the fostering agency to Ofsted within twenty-four hours.

Your main priority is to ensure the child is safe. You must contact the supervising social worker or the fostering service, and they will report this to the registered manager.

What type of Incidents fall under Schedule 7 reporting?

The following fall under Schedule 7 reporting:

- Investigation and outcome from a Section 47 enquiry involving a child or young person in foster care.
- Any serious complaint about a foster carer.
- If a child or young person is missing from foster care.
- If there are concerns around child sexual exploitation.
- An allegation of a serious crime.
- Outbreak of a serious disease in the foster home.
- Serious illness or accident of a child or young person.
- Death of a child in care.
- Information is provided to the ISA (DBS) in respect of a person working for the fostering service.

Please remember the following:

- The foster carer must inform the child or young person'ssocial worker and the supervising social worker immediately of any 'critical incident.'
- If the social worker has identified an incident or received a disclosure from a child or young person then it is essential they inform the supervising social worker or fostering service.
- In certain situations the foster carer will make an initial decisionregarding actions required. They will record the incident in the child or young person's 'daily log,' as well as the 'incident log'.
- The fostering service will need to be involved in any strategy discussions, Section 47 enquiries, and LADO meetings that may be required.
- Where appropriate the supervising social worker will routinely discuss incidents with the foster carer.
- The supervising social worker will complete the Schedule 6 and 7 checklist to ensure all incidents are recorded.

Please ensure you notify the fostering team before contacting the LADO.

It is essential the child's social worker and their team manager notify the fostering service of any complaints, allegations and critical incidents so that the service is able to support and fulfil its regulatory requirements.