

Child under the age of 16 (or under 18 if disabled) who is either currently living or plans to live with an adult who is not a close relative, for a period of 28 days or longer.

Private Fostering Notification (<u>PF Notification.doc</u>) needs to be completed and sent to <u>pfostering@gloucestershire.gov.uk</u>

Child is open to Children Services and is subject to a Child in Need or Child Protection Plan.

Private Fostering pathway is triggered on LL. Children and Families Team must stay involved while the child is subject to a Child in Need or Child Protection Plan.

Child is not open to Children Services

Contact Record to be opened by KST or MASH.
Outcome to be recorded as progress to
Referral. Referral record to be completed and
Private Fostering Agreement to be selected as
outcome.

Private Fostering Agreement to be completed on LL with an outcome to complete Private Fostering assessment.

Social Worker to be allocated and initial visit to take place within 7 working days.

Social worker to carry out an assessment of the suitability of the arrangements for the child, including completing relevant checks. The assessment of the private foster carers should be presented to the Designated Manager for a decision to be made within no more than 42 days.

If the assessment is **positive** the child should be visited every six weeks in the first year, and at least three monthly thereafter by a Social Worker. For children over 16 and part of Homes for Ukraine (HFU) scheme 12 weekly visits may be appropriate.

Private Fostering arrangement comes to an end, child turns 16 (18 with disability or part of HFU scheme) or returns home to parents. If moving to alternative Private Fostering arrangement, new PF arrangement can be started from Private Fostering Arrangement Assessment Report.

If the assessment is **negative** the social worker should advise the Private Foster carers that they cannot be recommended as suitable and advise the parents of the reason why alternative arrangements will have to be made for the child. Referral into the Children Services MASH may be required if there are Safeguarding concerns.

De notification form to be completed and uploaded to LL. Closure record to be completed (unless remaining open to Children and Families team).

Private Fostering Flowchart



Document Control

Document information

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