

# PRIVATE FOSTERING THE FACTS

## A PRIVATELY FOSTERED CHILD IS ONE WHO:

- Is under 16 (or under 18 if disabled).
- Is provided with care and accommodation by someone who:
  - Is not a parent
  - Does not have parental responsibility
  - Is not a close relative\*
- Is (or plans to be) provided with this accommodation continually for 28 days or more.

\*close relatives are defined by the Children Act as parents, step-parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts or uncles.

## WHAT I NEED TO DO:

- Call the Referral and Assessment Team on **01724 296500** to discuss the situation with a social worker.
- If in doubt call and discuss the situation with a social worker.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- Assessments will be undertaken to ensure the arrangements are appropriate.

## REMEMBER

It is an **OFFENCE** for families not to notify the local council of a private fostering arrangement.

