

Private Fostering Process  
Flow Chart

NOTIFICATION OF PRIVATE FOSTERING  
ARRANGEMENT

The Social Worker will undertake an initial visit within 7 days to the premises where the child will live and carry out the following task:

- speak to the private foster carer and other members of the household;
- speak to the child, alone unless the officer considers it inappropriate; and,
- speak to and if possible, visit the parents.
- ensure that the purpose and likely duration of the private fostering arrangement is understood by and agreed between the parents and the private foster carers
- understand the wishes and feelings of the child, the suitability of other members of the private foster carer's household.
- ensure that the parents are involved in planning for the child and explore whether the child's needs may be more appropriately met by providing services to the child and parent at home
- consider the suitability of the proposed accommodation.
- consider the capacity of the proposed private foster carer to look after the child.
- consider the suitability of other members of the proposed private foster carer's household.
- check that the financial matters are in order and the contact arrangements are working (where the child is already placed)
- Ensure that relevant health and education arrangements are in place for the child
- Understand how decisions about the care of the child will be taken
- Ensure that the private foster carer, the parents of the child and any other person concerned with the child are being given such advice as deemed necessary
- Ensure the child's physical, intellectual, emotional, social and behavioural development is appropriate and satisfactory;
- Ensure the child's religious, racial, cultural and linguistic needs are being met;
- Ensure the financial arrangements for the care and maintenance are working;
- Ensure the child is receiving appropriate health care;
- Ensure the standards of care that the child is given.

