Here are some things that children and young people have said about private fostering:

“Private foster children should have the social worker’s contact details to call if they feel unsafe”

“Make sure privately fostered children can speak freely to the social worker – away from their carer’s house.”

“Social Workers should visit regularly”

To find out more about Private Fostering or to tell someone that you think you are privately fostered you can call:

CUSTOMER FIRST 0808 800 4005
or you can go on-line
www.suffolkcc.gov.uk
www.everychildmatters.gov.uk
www.baaf.org.uk

Here are some things that children and young people have said about private fostering:

“Social Workers should visit regularly”

If you need help to understand this information in another language please call 08456 066 067
Se precisa de ayuda para leer esta información en otra lengua, por favor telefone para o número abaixo.
Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tych informacji w swoim języku zadzwoń na podany poniżej numer.
এই তথ্যটি বুঝতে পারেন না তাহলে নিচের নম্বর দিয়ে কন্য করুন
Будьди проблему для вас с тази информация, моля звярнутиесь к нам по нижнит номер.
Смислите проблему с тази информация, моля звярнутиесь к нам по нижнит номер.

If you would like this information in another format, including audio tape or large print, please call 08456 066 067.
What is Private Fostering?

Private fostering is a care arrangement for children under 16 (or under 18 and you have a disability) where your parents have arranged for you to live with another adult instead of your Mum and Dad. The person who looks after you will not be a close relative.

If you are privately fostered it means that you will be living with a private foster carer in their house for over 28 days.

What will Children and Young People’s Services do?

The law says that Suffolk County Council must make sure that you are well cared for where you are living and they will ask a social worker to visit you to see if you are okay.

A social worker is someone employed by Suffolk County Council to make sure that children and young people are safe and well.

They will come see where you live and make sure that you are happy living with the private foster carer.

They will talk to the person looking after you to see if they need any help. They will even get in touch with your parents to make sure they know everything is okay.

We have to make sure privately fostered children are properly looked after.

Here are some examples of children who may be privately fostered:

- A child sent to a host family in this country for education or health care, by parents who live overseas
- A teenager living with a friend’s family because they don’t get on with their own family
- A child living with a friend’s family because their parents work or study makes it difficult to use ordinary day care or after-school care
- A child staying with another family because their parents have separated or divorced
- A child from overseas staying with a host family while attending a language school or overseas students at boarding school who stays with a host family during the holidays.

Your parents and your private foster carer must tell Suffolk County Council if you are living in someone else’s house. Your teacher or your doctor could also tell us. You could too!