

Private Fostering Statement

Private fostering is the term used to describe a situation where a child aged under 16 (or under 18 if disabled) is cared for and supplied with accommodation by an adult who is not a relative for 28 days or more.

Private Fostering is different from the care of children by local councils through approved foster carers. A privately fostered child is not looked after by the local council under the Children Act 1989, but local councils can provide further information about private fostering if required. Private fostering placements are normally arranged by a birth parent or by an educational Guardian, such as MyEducation. Private foster carers do not hold parental responsibility.

If you plan to host a student who is under the age of 16 for more than 28 days with MyEducation, we are obliged to share your information with your Local Authority. By entering into this arrangement, you must be aware that the Local Authority will be in contact and perform their own checks to ensure the suitability of the placement and monitor the progress of the student. These checks will be in addition to the checks required by MyEducation.

MyEducation is required to liaise with the school and the host family to ensure that, where possible, the local authority is notified of the proposal for a private fostering arrangement at least six weeks before the date on which the arrangement is to begin (England and Wales) or at least 2 weeks before the date on which the arrangement is to begin (Scotland). Where the arrangement is to begin within six / two weeks, the local authority is to be informed immediately

To enter into a private fostering agreement, MyEducation will ask you to complete/provide information so that a Private Fostering Notification Form (PF1) can be submitted to the Local Authority. Details required include, but are not limited to:

- Name and details of adult carers
- Other members of the home
- Addresses for past 5 years
- Criminal convictions
- GP and Dentist information
- School details
- Referees who can be contacted to confirm suitability

In entering into a private fostering agreement with MyEducation, you must agree to the following: •

- Communicate with local authority about the private fostering arrangement in a timely manner
- Allow the local authority to complete the necessary checks, which might include:
 - DBS/ PVG checks
 - At home interview
 - Medical checks
 - Ongoing visits/communications throughout the placement
- Follow all requirements of the local authority to ensure that the placement is a success.
- Agree to regular checks by MyEducation and/or the local authority to confirm the suitability of the placement during the student's stay.



If you are not willing to agree to these requirements, then MyEducation will be able to place an older or shorter-term student into your home without the additional involvement of the local authority.

Please sign to confirm that you have read this statement and understand what is required of you in this role.

Carer #1: Name:

Signature:

Date:

Carer#2: Name:

Signature:

Date:

Please call us on 02380 970 924 or email wepeducation@wep.org if you have any questions about this document.