Responsible for someone else's child?

Private fostering - tell NYC about it! The safety and well-being of all our children is paramount; this includes where children are being cared for by someone who is not a close relative.

Private fostering is when a young person is being cared for by an adult (the 'private foster carer') who is not their parent and;

- is not the young person's legal guardian or a close relative. Close relatives are grandparents, step-parents, brothers and step-brothers, sisters and step-sisters, aunts, uncles and civil partners of close relatives
- the young person is under 16 (or under 18 if they are disabled)
- the arrangement lasts for more than 28 consecutive days
- it is a full-time care arrangement

The private foster carer is responsible for the young person's health, education, social, physical, developmental, and emotional needs. They cannot care for more than three young people (excluding their own children) at once.

If you live in North Yorkshire and are considering a private fostering arrangement for your child, please contact us immediately. It is an offence not to tell us about your arrangement. You will be sent a standard notification form to complete and sign.

Although this is done by private arrangement, legally the parent and the carer must notify the local authority where the child is going to live, so that Social Care can make sure that the child is being properly looked after.

For more information on Private Fostering visit North Yorkshire County Council's website at

https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/fostering-north-yorkshire/private-fostering