

# 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 Children's Social Care on 0191 433 2653 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



For more info visit: [www.gatesheadsafeguarding.org.uk](http://www.gatesheadsafeguarding.org.uk)