



What is Private Fostering?

Private fostering is when a child or young person under 16 years old (or 18 if they have a disability) is looked after for 28 days or more by someone who is not a close relative, guardian or person with parental responsibility. Close relatives include parents, step parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents. It is not private fostering if the arrangement was made by a social worker at Staffordshire County Council or if the person looking after the child is an approved foster carer.

People become private foster carers for all sorts of reasons. Private foster carers can be a friend of the child's family, or be someone who is willing to care for the child of a family they do not know.

Why do you need to notify Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership if you are privately fostering a child?

Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) will arrange to make regular visits to see how the child has settled with you and provide you with support. SSCP will also be able to help you with practical information and advice, as well as details about benefits that may be available to you. SSCP will work in partnership with the child, parents and private foster carer to ensure that the best possible arrangements are in place for the child. This includes: visiting the parent(s), the child and private foster carer helping to make sure that the child's holistic needs including racial, cultural, linguistic and religious needs are being met.

To find out more about Private Fostering or to tell someone that you think a child might be privately fostered you can call: The SCAS team on: 0300 111 8007 Select option 1, then 3.

Or you can go on-line: staffordshire.gov.uk/privatefostering or click the link: [What is Private Fostering? | Foster For Staffordshire](#)

Foster

with Staffordshire County Council



Private Fostering



Is your child living with another family?
Are you looking after someone else's child?

Call: 0300 111 8007 Select option 1, then 3.

staffordshire.gov.uk/privatefostering



Staff Training, Key Documents and Policies



In the autumn term our Designated Safeguarding Leads attended the termly update led by Staffordshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership which covered a range of topics including: hate crime, looked after pupils, attendance, RADY (raising attainment of disadvantaged youngsters) PSHE support and knife crime prevention.



All school staff completed Level 1 Safeguarding training in September 2024 to ensure their knowledge and understanding is up to date. Weekly safeguarding briefings continue to be held to refresh key safeguarding topics. Since the beginning of the academic year we have reviewed various safeguarding policies. These include:

- Attendance Policy
- PREVENT Policy and Action Plan
- Child on Child Abuse Policy
- Safer Recruitment Policy
- Restrictive Physical Intervention Policy

Click here to view our safeguarding policies: [Policies & Procedures - Oxhey First School | Biddulph | Staffordshire](#)



Safer Internet Day Tuesday 11th February 2025



Children should feel safe at all times. This includes when they are online. We have an E-Safety Policy which is regularly reviewed and updated. Staying safe in the virtual world is regularly discussed in class and in assemblies to further promote the importance of this.

This year, Safer Internet Day has the theme of "Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online". Awareness of this topic will be focussed on in lessons in an age-appropriate way. Click here for more information: [Safer Internet Day 2025 - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

National Online Safety is a multi-award winning digital training provider with extensive resources in online safety, developed in line with the Department of Education's statutory requirements.

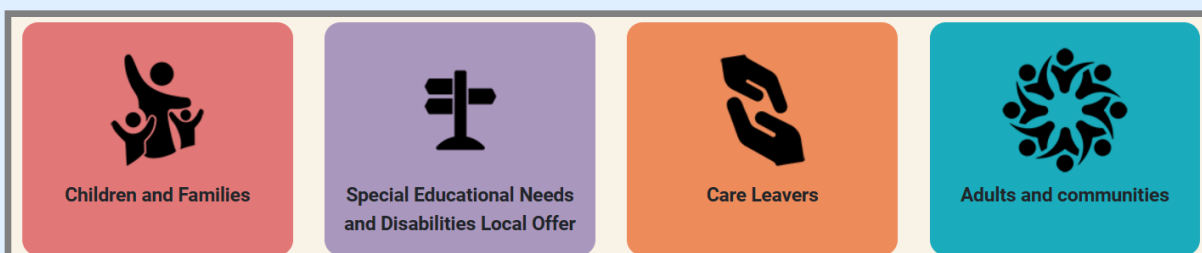
We regularly email posters to offer advice, support and helpful tips for increasing internet safety in the home. These posters provide information on filters, time-limits and safety settings on various apps and devices as well as some of the risks of social media platforms that parents may not be aware of.

Please click on the link below for lots of useful resources and support for staying safe online including National Online Safety factsheets:

[Safeguarding - Castlechurch Primary School | Stafford](#)



Staffordshire Connects is a service that allows parents /carers to search and find help & support in their community under the 4 following headings:



Click here: [Staffordshire Connects](#)