



Are you sending your child to the UK for schooling?

Who they stay with is important British law requires you to notify us

If your child is under 16 and will stay with grandparents, blood aunts & uncles, sisters or brothers the Local Authority (Government) do not need to be contacted. The Local Authority can ask for evidence of this arrangement.

If your child is under 16 and living with "someone else" the Local Authority (Government) needs to be contacted by yourself and the carers before this arrangement is made. This is called a **Private Fostering Arrangement** and a legal/statutory requirement. It is an offence not to inform the Local Authority.

It also means that the Local Authority (Government) will ensure the welfare of your child and can offer your child and their private foster carer support.

If you are entering into such an arrangement with carers in Merton, and/or need further information, you can contact:

Multi Action Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
Children, Schools and Families Department
Merton Council
Civic Centre
London Road
Morden
SM4 5DX

E mail : childreadayservice@merton.gov.uk
Telephone @ 020 8545 4226 or 020 8545 4227