Flow Chart of the Notification Process for a Privately Fostered Child

Referral from member of the public, including parent or carer

Private Fostering arrangement identified as a current case

Referral from agency partner and / or practitioner

Child or young person and the carer lives in Rotherham

Referrer contacts MASH - details of the carer and child taken. MASH screen child’s details and assesses whether threshold is met for any safeguarding concerns.

Arrangement meets Private Fostering Criteria

Duty and Assessment Team / Family Placement Service complete a visit within 7 days

Family Placement Service commence full assessment within 35 days. Complete statutory checks as part of the full assessment.

Carers are supported under private fostering arrangement by Family Placement Team

Arrangement does not meet Private Fostering Criteria

Duty and Assessment Team undertake statutory duties as required (6 weekly visits) working closely alongside the Family Placements Service for the duration of the private fostering arrangement

Child is supported as appropriate under CIN plan

At the end of the private fostering arrangement Rotherham receive feedback from the child, carer / parents before closing the case

Strategy discussion and child protection procedures as necessary

Sign post or refer to early help services

Consider other options such as Reg 24, Special Guardianship or care proceedings