**Leaflet for Birth Families of Children who are living with South Gloucestershire Foster Carers.**

If your child is living with South Gloucestershire foster carers, you might be feeling sad, or angry or worried at the moment. You probably have questions about the foster carers who will be looking after your child. This leaflet has been written by the South Gloucestershire Fostering Service to answer some of the questions you might have.



**How are foster carers chosen?**

Anyone who wants to be a foster carer must apply to the Council.

We take a lot of time checking their background, this includes with the police and their doctor.

We visit them and make sure their home is safe.

We get to know them really well; we ask them what they know about children and how they would make sure a child is well looked after, happy and safe to grow in their home.

When we have all this information, we write a long report for the fostering panel and a senior manager makes the final decision about whether these people suitable to be foster carers.





**How do you make sure that foster carers always look after children well?**





Foster carers have a supervising social worker. They visit them regularly. Their job is to support carers because fostering can be hard at times. They make sure the foster carers go to training and support groups.

They also make sure the carers are always doing the very best for your child. They check their standard of care and the house; this includes an unannounced visit when the foster carers are not expecting them.







If you have any questions or worries about the foster carers, you can talk to your child’s social worker and ask them to take the matter up with the Fostering Service.

If you need to make a complaint or pass on a compliment, you can contact the South Glos feedback team on: [CAHFeedback@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:CAHFeedback@southglos.gov.uk)