Found a nestling out of the nest?

Nestlings are baby birds that have little or no feathers, which will not survive long outside the protection of the nest. Birds take far better care of their babies than humans can, and where possible nestlings should be renested and left in the wild.

If the baby bird has all or most of its feathers, then this is a fledgling which doesn’t need to be renested as they leave the nest just before they can fly. Further advice about how and when to help fledglings found out of the nest is available at: www.rspca.org.uk/babybirds

REMEMBER to wear sturdy gloves any time you handle wildlife and don’t give the baby animals food or water. Avoid handling unless absolutely necessary, so you don’t cause unnecessary stress and make sure you keep any pets well away from the birds.

Visit: www.rspca.org.uk/babybirds for more advice and video examples of renesting.
Specific advice is also available for species including young waterfowl, gulls, swifts, corvids and birds of prey.