

Fostering Allowances for Looked After Children Effective from 1st April 2020

Basic Allowances (weekly rates)

<u>Ages</u>	<u>Maintenance*</u> £	<u>Clothing</u> £	<u>Total</u> £
0 - 2	109.00	23.00	132.00
3 - 4	112.00	23.00	135.00
5 - 10	119.00	30.00	149.00
11 - 15	134.00	36.00	170.00
16 - 17	150.00	48.00	198.00

** Please note that the Maintenance allowance is expected to cover Transport costs and Personal allowances such as pocket money, toiletries, personal hygiene products, dry cleaning, personal telephone calls, youth activity fees, treats etc.*

Any payment received by the foster carer in respect of the child from any other source, with the exception of: Incapacity Benefit, Employment & Support Allowance, Disability Living Allowance (Mobility Care Component), and Personal Independent Payment, will be deducted from the fostering allowances.

Skills Payment and Enhancement Scheme

**Some carers receive enhanced payments due to significant complexity of the needs of the child they care for, previously known as Level Three. There is no training pathway which triggers enhanced payments to be made.*

The weekly rates for Skills Payments / Enhancements are as follows:

Skills Level	1 Child Placed £	Each Additional Child £
1	54.00	27.00
2	139.00	69.00
Enhancement	261.00	131.00

Clothing

The Children's Services Director has discretion to make additional payments for initial clothing requirements upon entry into care.

School Outfits

The Children's Services Director has discretion to make available to foster carers an allowance towards the purchase of a school outfit for a child entering primary school £75, and transferring from a primary school to a secondary school £250.

Birthday Gifts

An annual allowance for a birthday gift will be made equalling the full weekly amount of Basic Allowance payable in respect of the age groups.

Christmas Gifts

An annual allowance for a Christmas gift will be made equal to 2 weeks full weekly amount of Basic Allowance payable in respect of the age group.

Holiday Grants

<u>AGE</u>	<u>£</u>
0 - 4	178.00
5 - 10	221.00
11 - 15	278.00
16 - 17	333.00

Note: Annual Holiday Grants are not included in the weekly payment but for permanent placements, will be paid automatically in May.