

# Foster Care Allowances

The tables below show the rates for 2015/2016

## Overview:

### Newly Approved Regulation 27 carers

Age	0- 4	5-10	11-15	16-17
Weekly Rate	£295.00	£313.00	£334.00	£366.00

### Short Term and Long Term Foster Carers Tier 1 - Completed TSD's

Age	0- 4	5-10	11-15	16-17
Weekly Rate	£320.00	£338.00	£359.00	£391.00

### Short Term and Long Term Foster Carers Tier 2 - Fostering Changes

Age	0- 4	5-10	11-12	13-15	16-17
Weekly Rate	£335.00	£353.00	£374.00	£435.00	£471.00

## Guide to the Division of the Weekly Foster Care Allowance

FOSTER CARER ALLOWANCES AND REWARD ELEMENT NEWLY APPROVED REG 27 CARERS						
Age Bands	Caring costs	Clothing	Personal Allowance/ Pocket Money	Savings	Reward Element	Total
0 - 4	£113.50	£19.00	£2.50	£10.00	£150.00	£295.00
5 - 10	£128.00	£20.00	£5.00	£10.00	£150.00	£313.00
11-15	£137.00	£27.00	£10.00	£10.00	£150.00	£334.00
16 - 17	£158.00	£33.00	£15.00	£10.00	£150.00	£366.00

<b>FOSTER CARER ALLOWANCES AND REWARD ELEMENT TIER 1 COMPLETED TSD'S</b>						
<b>Age Bands</b>	<b>Caring costs</b>	<b>Clothing</b>	<b>Personal Allowance/ Pocket Money</b>	<b>Savings</b>	<b>Reward Element</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>0 - 4</b>	£1113.50	£19.00	£2.50	£10.00	£175.00	£320.00
<b>5 - 10</b>	£128.00	£20.00	£5.00	£10.00	£175.00	£338.00
<b>11-15</b>	£137.00	£27.00	£10.00	£10.00	£175.00	£359.00
<b>16 - 17</b>	£158.00	£33.00	£15.00	£10.00	£175.00	£391.00

<b>FOSTER CARER ALLOWANCES AND REWARD ELEMENT TIER 2 FOSTERING CHANGES</b>						
<b>Age Bands</b>	<b>Caring costs</b>	<b>Clothing</b>	<b>Personal Allowance/ Pocket Money</b>	<b>Savings</b>	<b>Reward Element</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>0 - 4</b>	£1113.50	£19.00	£2.50	£10.00	£190.00	£335.00
<b>5 - 10</b>	£128.00	£20.00	£5.00	£10.00	£190.00	£353.00
<b>11-12</b>	£137.00	£27.00	£10.00	£10.00	£190.00	£374.00
<b>13-15</b>	£137.00	£27.00	£10.00	£10.00	£251.00	£435.00
<b>16 - 17</b>	£158.00	£33.00	£15.00	£10.00	£255.00	£471.00

**Tier 3 NVQ and/or Diploma**

<p><b>An additional £10pw for each week a child is in placement paid twice per year in April &amp; Sept for the previous 6 months (Max £520pa)</b></p>
--

## Other Allowances (Approved Carers)

Allowance Type	Holiday	Birthday	Festival
Rate	£450 all ages	£100 – 11 to 17 £75 – 3 to 10 £50 – 0 - 2	£100 – 11 to 17 £75 – 3 to 10 £50 – 0 - 2

### Short Breaks

Short Breaks carers will be paid £10.00 per hour for each child up to a maximum of 10 hours, where the child does not stay overnight. Expenses for activities, transport and light meal costs can be claimed for the carer and the child on the production of receipts. Where the carer looks after the child in their own home, they can claim travel costs as long as they produce the tickets.

If the child stays with the carer overnight, the carer will be paid the fostering allowance according to the child's age and the tier level of the carer. Where the child is with the carer overnight they will receive the weekly pro rata rate for the number of days that the child resides with them.

## GUIDANCE ON ALLOWANCES

### Holiday Allowance for Approved carers

All approved carers will receive 2 weeks reward element at the £175pw rate each year. Short break carers will receive one week's reward element. This will be paid in May for all carers. It will not need to be requested, it will be paid automatically. However please discuss with your supervising social worker when you plan to take your 2 weeks holiday. This will be paid to all carers regardless of whether they have/or have had a child in placement.

### Holiday Allowance in respect of children

The holiday allowance for the child will be paid first week in July – unless requested at another time prior to this. Only one allowance per child per year. The birthday and festival allowance will be paid one month prior to the child's birthday/festival, only one allowance per child per year. The Muslim festival is Eid-ul Fitr and the Christian festival is Christmas. The child must be in placement on the date that the festival falls.

## **Guide to the division of the weekly Foster Care Allowance**

The following calculations are a guide to foster carers on how to use the allowance for the foster child. Please remember; the amount of allowance within the different components will vary from child to child depending on their individual needs.

### **Caring costs:**

The Caring Costs component will cover expenses such as food, transport, laundry, heating, cleaning, water rates, linen, minor damages and replacement of furniture and equipment.

#### **Note:**

An element of the allowance should be saved to replenish these items.

### **Transport:**

Additional claims for transport should be rare and exceptional. It is an expectation that carers within a 10 mile radius will absorb the cost of transport within their allowance. In other cases a claim should be made for any such requests by the supervising social worker or the child's social worker. £20pw per child will be deducted for any additional transport claims agreed.

### **Clothing:**

The clothing component will cover items of clothing needed for the child/young person. . The clothing component can also be used to save up for larger items such as a winter/summer clothes. It might also be used, if appropriate, to prepare a young person for independence by being paid directly to their bank account. The issue should be discussed at the pathway plan meeting or the young person's review.

### **One-Off Clothing Grant**

At times, the child/young person will come to your home without the minimum clothing and on those occasions a special one off grant of up to £50 can be paid to cover the expense. Receipts must be provided for reimbursement

### **Child/Young Person's Personal Allowance:**

The child's/young person's personal allowance can be used for pocket money and for savings. It is important for children and young people in care to have their own bank account for their savings. The issue around savings should be addressed at the planning meeting and all subsequent reviews. A note should be made at each review of the amount of savings held for the child/young person.

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOSTER CARERS UNDER REGULATION 24

### Family and Friends Foster Carers Regulation 24

<b>Age</b>	<b>0- 4</b>	<b>5-10</b>	<b>11-15</b>	<b>16-17</b>
<b>Weekly Rate</b>	<b>£145.00</b>	<b>£163.00</b>	<b>£184.00</b>	<b>£216.00</b>

### Guide to the division of the weekly Allowance for Family & Friends/Connected People.

<b>FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOSTER CARER ALLOWANCE BREAKDOWN REG 24</b>					
<b>Age Bands</b>	<b>Caring costs</b>	<b>Clothing</b>	<b>Personal Allowance</b>	<b>Savings</b>	<b>Total weekly allowance</b>
<b>0 - 4</b>	£113.50	£19.00	£2.50	£10.00	£145.00
<b>5 - 10</b>	£128.00	£20.00	£5.00	£10.00	£163.00
<b>11-15</b>	£137.00	£27.00	£10.00	£10.00	£184.00
<b>16 - 17</b>	£158.00	£33.00	£15.00	£10.00	£216.00

The above rates apply for the financial year 2015/2016 for all children who are Looked After and living with a connected person (family and friend foster carers Reg 24). This arrangement needs to be approved by the relevant Service Manager, before allowances can be paid.

The weekly rate will be payable from the date of placement or from 1st April 2015 whichever is the latest date.

The amounts payable under each column are guide for social workers and connected persons.