

Fostering Payment for Skills

The Payment for Skills scheme was introduced in 2001 and is designed to recognise the range of knowledge; competency and experience that foster carers possess, with carers paid an additional fee for each child in placement by reference to their skills level. During your assessment your skills and experience will be assessed and the level you start on will be discussed.

As a foster carer you complete a set of standards and produce a portfolio which evidences your skills and experience. As a new foster carer if you complete Standard 6 of the TSD Standards and complete the Foundations to Foster training during your assessment, then you may be able to commence fostering at Level 2. If you have relevant professional childcare experience or have experience of working with vulnerable children, then you can be considered to commence fostering at Level 3.

Already fostering? we will discuss your individual circumstances with you if you decide you want to transfer to us.

Level 1

Age range	Weekly allowance	Weekly fee	Total
0-1	£132.30	-	£132.30
2-4	£135.38	-	£135.38
5-10	£149.03	-	£149.03
11-15	£178.01	-	£178.01
16+	£198.80	-	£198.80

Level 2

Age range	Weekly allowance	Weekly fee	Total
0-1	£132.30	£45.43	£177.73
2-4	£135.38	£46.34	£181.72
5-10	£149.03	£53.76	£202.79

Age range	Weekly allowance	Weekly fee	Total
11-15	£178.01	£73.92	£251.93
16+	£198.80	£84.49	£283.29

Level 3

Age range	Weekly allowance	Weekly fee	Total
0-1	£132.30	£110.81	£243.11
2-4	£135.38	£111.86	£247.24
5-10	£149.03	£131.88	£280.91
11-15	£178.01	£170.87	£348.88
16+	£198.80	£189.98	£388.78

Level 4

Age range	Weekly allowance	Weekly fee	Total
0-9	Level 4 not payable for children under 10	Level 4 not payable for children under 10	Level 4 not payable for children under 10
10+ years	£149.03	£294.77	£443.80
11-15	£178.01	£294.77	£472.78
16+	£198.80	£334.04	£532.84

Intensive fostering fee levels: Resilience and full-time disability short break carers

Age range	Weekly allowance	Retainer	Total
10	149.03	496.95	645.98

Age range	Weekly allowance	Retainer	Total
11-15	178.01	496.95	674.96
16-17	198.90	496.95	695.75

Disability short breaks

- Intros/meetings: £16.53
- Up to 6 hours: £32.91
- Up to 12 hours: £49.32
- Up to 24 hours: £65.80
- Up to 36 hours: £98.54
- Up to 48 hours: £131.54
- Up to 60 hours: £151.94
- Up to 72 hours: £172.54
- Up to 84 hours: £193.05
- Up to 96 hours: £213.60
- Up to 108 hours: £234.04
- Up to 120 hours: £254.60
- Up to 132 hours: £275.21
- Up to 144 hours: £295.71
- Up to 156 hours: £316.26
- Up to 168 hours: £336.76

If you have any questions about the payment for skills scheme or are unsure what level you might start at please contact the team and we'd be happy to discuss further with you please email –

fosteringandadoptionbus@staffordshire.gov.uk.