

PAYMENT FOR SKILLS SCHEME 2023/2024

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.

FOSTERING RATES PAYMENT FOR SKILLS

Level 1

AGE RANGE	WEEKLY ALLOWANCE	WEEKLY FEE	TOTAL
0-1	155.64	-	155.64
2-4	159.21	-	159.21
5-10	175.45	-	175.45
11-15	209.33	-	209.33
16+	233.76	-	233.76

Level 2

AGE RANGE	WEEKLY ALLOWANCE	WEEKLY FEE	TOTAL
0-1	155.64	49.91	205.55
2-4	159.21	50.89	210.10
5-10	175.45	59.01	234.46
11-15	209.33	81.13	290.46
16+	233.76	92.75	326.51

Level 3

AGE RANGE	WEEKLY ALLOWANCE	WEEKLY FEE	TOTAL
0-1	155.64	121.73	277.37
2-4	159.21	122.85	282.06
5-10	175.45	144.83	320.28
11-15	209.33	187.67	397.00
16+	233.76	208.67	442.43

Level 4

AGE RANGE	WEEKLY ALLOWANCE	WEEKLY FEE	TOTAL
0-1	155.64	271.95	427.59
2-4	159.21	274.47	433.68
5-10	175.45	323.61	499.06
11-15	209.33	323.61	532.94
16+	233.76	366.80	600.56

Intensive Fostering Fee Levels:

Fees paid to carers who are approved to provide placements for specific intensive fostering programmes – resilience care, fostering disability full-time short break fostering.

A fostering fee is paid at a higher rate and is outside the Payment for Skills scheme. The programme offers solo placements to children and young people who require intensive support. Each programme has individual criteria that the carers are required to meet.

AGE RANGE	WEEKLY ALLOWANCE	FEE	TOTAL
10	175.45	545.62	721.07
11 - 15	209.33	545.62	754.95
16 - 17	233.76	545.62	779.38

Emergency Fostering and Turnaround Foster Carers

These carers have specific approval and meet the individual requirements of the respective schemes, they both have a period on rota and time off and are paid a fee of £545.62 per week. In addition, when a child has been placed with the foster carer, they will receive the weekly allowance shown in the table below depending on the age of the child on a pro rata basis depending on how long the child stays with the foster carer.

AGE RANGE	WEEKLY ALLOWANCE
0-1	155.64
2-4	159.21
5-10	175.45
11-15	209.33
16+	233.76