

## **FOSTER CARER ALLOWANCES**

The Current and Recommended Basic Allowances as per National Government Minimum Rates:

All Carers receive the following: -

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Current Scales</b>	<b>Recommended</b>
	<b>Weekly Allowance</b>	<b>Weekly Allowance</b>
0 - 4	£128.00	£129.00
5 - 10	£141.00	£143.00
11 - 15	£161.00	£164.00
16 - 17	£188.00	£191.00

## **Holiday, Birthday and Religious Festival Allowances**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Holiday Current</b>	<b>Birthday Current</b>	<b>Religious Festival Current</b>
0 - 4	£287.00	£114.00	£172.00
5 - 10	£344.00	£114.00	£172.00
11 - 15	£414.00	£114.00	£172.00
16 - 17	£541.00	£114.00	£195.00

## **ENHANCEMENTS**

In addition to the Basic Allowances detailed above Tier 2 and Tier 3 Carers receive the following enhancements (with the exceptions mentioned below).

Tier 2 Carer £115.00 per week

Tier 3 Carer £230.00 per week

The new payment structure was introduced from October 2011 and it is recommended that this rate should remain unchanged for 2018/19.

Fostering Focus carers and those carers receiving a Specialist Allowance will not receive this enhancement.

### **FOSTERING FOCUS FEE PAID SCHEME**

The fee of £305.00 plus the basic allowance is payable to foster carers who were approved to be Fostering Focus carers. It is recommended that this rate should remain unchanged as the scheme is being phased out.

### **SPECIALIST FOSTER CARERS**

An allowance of £162.00 plus the basic allowance, is payable to foster carers who are approved for special placements. It is recommended that this rate should remain unchanged as the scheme is being phased out.

### **DISCRETIONARY ALLOWANCES**

In addition to the basic allowances referred to above, certain other allowances are payable and it is proposed that these also remain the same these allowances ensure all children coming into care have adequate clothing. It is a one off payment only for those newly entering the care system.

#### 1) **Initial clothing**

Senior Managers have discretion to make allowances up to the following amounts:

0 - 7 years	£440.00
8 - 10 years	£445.00
11 - 12 years	£585.00
13 - 17 years	£695.00

#### 2) **School outfits, tools and protective clothing**

Senior Managers have authority to make available to foster carers an allowance of up to £263.00 to assist towards the purchase of a school uniform for a child entering school or transferring to a school where a different uniform is required or to assist a young person taking up employment. This will remain unchanged for 2018/19.