



We believe that fostering can be transformative to the lives of children and young people as well as incredibly rewarding for foster carers themselves.

We know that people become foster carers for a variety of reasons and although money might not be your first concern, it is important that potential foster carers understand the fees and allowances available so that you can budget for your family's outgoings.

Well the short answer is that on average foster carers in Rotherham earn £428 per week, which is above the national average. However, the actual amount you will earn depends on a few things like how many children you have on placement in your home, their ages and other factors that are based on the needs of the children in placement.

To make it easy to understand, Fostering Rotherham pay our foster carers an all inclusive weekly amount, this payment is made up of two parts:

The foster carer fee

This is sometimes referred to as a 'skills payment' but basically this is the fee we pay to foster carers for

doing the amazing job they do every day. Again, this fee can vary based on the qualifications and skills foster carers acquire over time.

A fostering allowance

This is a payment to cover the living costs associated with having a child such as food, clothing, pocket money and activities. The amount of allowance you receive varies depending on how old they are and how many children you care for. If you are providing short term, emergency or other task centred care your rates will be calculated in exactly the same way but prorated based on the number of days you care for.

Types of foster care

The following rates are the allowances paid for long term foster care. Short term (task centred), Emergency foster carer, Second Home, Sleepovers, and Supported Lodgings allowances are the same as Long term foster care rates but prorated based on the length of placements. For Staying Put care the average weekly fee to a carer is £256 plus contribution from the young person. For Parent and Baby placements, our foster carers are paid at skill level 4 plus the basic allowances for the baby and a Staying Put rate for the parent or parents.

		Skills Level 1	Skills Level 2	Skills Level 3	Skills Level 4
Foster Carer Fee	1 child	£100.00	£125.00	£175.00	£360.00
	2 children	£100.00	£125.00	£175.00	£360.00
	3+ children	£50.00	£62.50	£87.50	£180.00

		Age: Babies	Age: 1-4 (Pre-Primary)	Age: 5-10 (Primary)	Age: 11-15	Age: 16+
Basic Allowance	Standard weekly fees	£135	£135	£152.12	£189.37	£230.30
	Birthday allowance	£133.54	£133.54	£152.12	£189.37	£230.30
	Christmas allowance	£133.54	£133.54	£152.12	£189.37	£230.30
	Holiday allowance	£267.08	£267.08	£304.24	£378.74	£460.60
	Clothes allowance*	£75.00	£75.00	£75.00	£200.00	£200.00
	Weekly pocket money and clothing allowance**	£9.75 clothing £1.94 pocket money	£9.75 clothing £1.94 pocket money	£9.75 clothing £4.49 pocket money	£12.65 clothing £8.64 pocket money	£12.65 clothing £11.39 pocket money

*This is a one off payment paid at the start of the placement. ** Included as part of the Standard weekly fees.

Example: Becky

Becky is a foster carer with one foster child, aged 3. She is a Level One skilled carer. Becky receives:

- £100 per week Foster Carer Fee
- £135 per week Basic Allowance

Total £235 per week

Example: Sarah & John

Sarah and John are foster carers with two foster children aged 11 and 16. They are Level Four skilled carers. Sarah and John receive:

- £720 per week Foster Carer Fee
- £419.67 per week Basic Allowance

Total £1139.67 per week