

Appendix 1: Children's Social Care – Comparison between approved 2025-26 and proposed 2026-27 rates and charges

Description of Payment/Charge	Basis	2025-26 Rate	2026-27 Proposed Rate	Movement in Rate	
		£	£	£	%
Adoption Service Charges (administered through Regional Adoption Agency)					
<i>Local Authority</i>					
One child	per child	£27,000	£27,000	£0	0%
2 Siblings	per child	£43,000	£43,000	£0	0%
3 Siblings	per child	£60,000	£60,000	£0	0%
4 Siblings	per child	£68,000	£68,000	£0	0%
5 Siblings	per child	£80,000	£80,000	£0	0%
<i>Voluntary Adoption Agencies</i>					
One child	per child	£39,245	£40,658	£1,413	3.6%
2 Siblings	per child	£63,297	£65,576	£2,279	3.6%
3 Siblings	per child	£86,085	£89,184	£3,099	3.6%
4 Siblings	per child	£98,742	£102,297	£3,555	3.6%
5 Siblings	per child	negotiated	Negotiated	n/a	n/a
Ongoing supervision	per child	£1,088	£1,127	£39	3.6%
Foster Care – Maintenance					
All placements under 2 years old	Weekly	£203.54	£210.00	£6.46	3.2%
All placements 2 to 4 years old	Weekly	£211.08	£218.62	£7.54	3.6%
All placements 5 to 10 years old	Weekly	£232.62	£240.15	£7.53	3.2%
All placements 11 to 15 years old	Weekly	£266.00	£274.62	£8.62	3.2%
All placements over 16 years old	Weekly	£310.15	£320.92	£10.77	3.5%

Description of Payment/Charge	Basis	2025-26 Rate	2026-27 Proposed Rate	Movement in Rate	
Foster Care – Reward					
Non-related placements for 0 to 8 years old	Weekly	£150.53	£156.70	£6.17	4.1%
Non-related placement for 9 to 18 years old	Weekly	£285.92	£297.64	£11.72	4.1%
Foster Care - Disability Enhancement					
Standard	Weekly	£85.78	£89.30	£3.52	4.1%
Enhanced	Weekly	£114.37	£119.06	£4.57	4.1%
Foster Care Skills Based Payments					
Skilled (Level 2)	Weekly	£26.98	£28.09	£1.11	4.1%
Advanced (Level 3)	Weekly	£67.39	£70.15	£2.76	4.1%
Foster Carer Mileage Rate					
Rate per mile	Mile	45p	45p	0p	0%
Emergency Foster Carer Payment					
Retainer	Weekly	£285.92	£297.64	£11.72	4.1%
One-off emergency payment (newly arrived unaccompanied asylum seeking child)	One-off	£100.00	£100.00	0p	0%
Foster Care - Sessional & Day Care Rates					
Sessional Work	Hourly	£12.71	£13.21	£0.50	3.9%
Day Care	Hourly	£12.71	£13.21	£0.50	3.9%
Step Across to Fostering Scheme (additional payments)					
Settling In Payment	One-Off	£5,000	£5,000	£0.00	0%
Retention Payment (up to 4 payments)	One-off	£2,500	£2,500	£0.00	0%

Description of Payment/Charge	Basis	2025-26 Rate	2026-27 Proposed Rate	Movement in Rate	
Retainer	Weekly	£285.92	£297.64	£11.72	4.1%
Vacant Bed Supplement	Weekly	£285.92	£297.64	£11.72	4.1%
Foster Carer – Parent & Child (Rate adjustment)					
Income Support personal allowance for a lone parent over 18	Weekly	£92.05	£95.55	£3.50	3.8%
Foster Carer – Hub Home Carer (extra payments)					
Standard Payment	Weekly	£710.44	£737.62	£27.18	3.8%
Social Activities Additional Payment	Monthly	£100.00	£100.00	0p	0%
Foster Carer – Other Payments					
Adoption Hospitality Allowance	Day	£25.00	£25.00	N/A	N/A
Foster Carer – Savings adjustment					
Savings (from week 14 onwards)	Weekly	£10.00	£10.00	0p	0%
Kent Fostering Panel Attendance					
Panel Chairs	Session	£421.89	£439.19	£17.30	4.1%
Panel Members	Session	£158.21	£164.70	£6.49	4.1%
Kent Supported Homes (Host payments)					
Standard Support	Weekly	£185.84	£193.46	£7.62	4.1%
Enhanced Support	Weekly	£309.72	£322.42	£12.70	4.1%
Complex Support (legacy cases only)	Weekly	£200.00	£200.00	£0.00	0%
Mother and Baby Arrangement Support	Weekly	£371.66	£386.90	£15.24	4.1%
Outreach support	Hourly	£12.71	£13.21	£0.50	3.9%
Rent (16/17 year old and 18+ who are not	Weekly	£86.72	£90.28	£3.56	4.1%

Description of Payment/Charge	Basis	2025-26 Rate	2026-27 Proposed Rate	Movement in Rate	
eligible to claim benefits)					
Rent (University non-term time)	Weekly	LHA** rate	LHA** rate	n/a	n/a
Staying Put Extended Foster Care Rate	Weekly	Various	Various	n/a	n/a
Essential Living Allowance					
Job Seekers Allowance rate for single adult aged under 25	Weekly	£72.90	£75.65	£2.75	3.8%

Please note: The table above lists the component parts the fostering rate only. The total amount paid to a foster carer will be a combination of the payments listed above dependent on both the foster carer and type of placement. Further details on the different type of payment structure can be found in the Kent Fostering Payments Policy presented to Cabinet Committee on 27th February 2026 (please see [background documents](#)).

**LHA Rate – Local Housing Authority Rate

