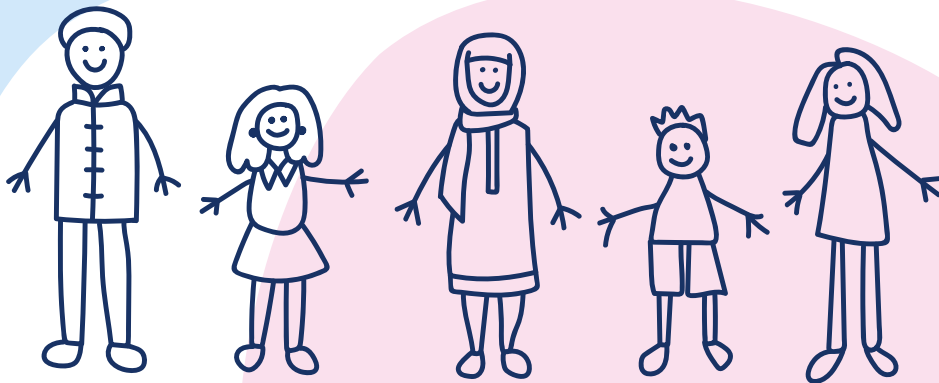




Fostering
in Bradford

Rates Sheet



City of
BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Here at Bradford Fostering we want you to feel supported. That's why we provide financial support to all our foster carers for the amazing work they do.

Although money might not be your first concern, it is important that you understand the fees and allowances in order to decide if fostering is affordable for your family.

On average, we pay our foster carers **£561 per week** to care for children and young persons who need help in our community. This is equivalent to **£2043 per month**, which is above the national average. The actual amount you will earn will depend on how many children you are caring for, their ages and other factors. It will also depend if you are full-time or a part-time foster carer.

To make it as easy as possible, we pay our full-time foster carers an all inclusive weekly (or daily for part-time) amount made up of two parts:

The fostering fee

This is the fee we pay to foster carers for doing an amazing job everyday by helping children in our community. It is sometimes referred to as a 'skills payment' and will vary based on your experience, skills, and how long you have been a foster carer.

The fostering allowance

This payment covers the living costs associated with caring for a child and will include food, clothing, pocket money, phone expenses, outings, and activities. The amount you will be paid is set by the government and is based on the age of the child in your care.

Additional allowances

It is important that children or young people coming into care feel welcome and comfortable.

If you are a full-time foster carer, you will receive additional allowances if you are caring for a child over the summer holidays or on their birthday. You will also receive allowances for religious holiday expenses (paid in November).

As a new foster carer, you will also receive additional financial allowances to purchase any essential equipment, including bedroom furniture, safety gates and car seats.

28 days paid annual leave

You deserve time off. That's why all our carers receive 28 days paid annual leave should you wish to take it. During this time, your foster child will be placed with other carers.

Regular payments

So you can plan your finances, we pay your fees and allowances every 2 weeks, directly into your bank or building society account.

Part-time foster carers are also paid a fostering fee and an allowance for each child in care, but these are paid as a daily payment for each session they are with you. All payments are paid in arrears.

12 week retainer payments between placements

On the very rare occasion that there are short periods between placements, we pay all our full-time carers a retainer fee payment for up to 12 weeks. You'll receive your full fee for the first 6 weeks, and 50% for weeks 7-12.

This support is put in place with all carers after their first placement.

Self employment

All foster carers are classed as self employed, which means you will need to fill in a tax return each year.

We provide dedicated resources to help make your tax return as easy as possible. You'll also be entitled to apply for state benefits, as your fostering allowance is not included in any Universal Credit decisions.

Tax allowances

To acknowledge the great work foster carers do, the UK government runs several tax relief schemes to reduce the amount of tax you pay on your fostering earnings. Guidance can be found on our website and on the HMRC website.

Calculating what you might earn as a foster carer for Bradford Council

The following rates are the allowances paid for long-term foster care. Short-term allowances are the same as long-term foster care rates but prorated based on the length of placements. Part-time foster carers are also paid a fostering fee and an allowance for each child looked after, but these are paid as a daily payment for each fostering session.

Fostering allowance 2021/22

AGE RANGE	DAILY ALLOWANCE	WEEKLY ALLOWANCE	TOTAL POSSIBLE ALLOWANCE PAID PER YEAR TO FULL TIME FOSTER CARERS
0-4	£19.71	£138.00	£7020.00
5-10	£21.71	£152.00	£7748.00
11-15	£24.71	£173.00	£10,088.00
16+	£28.86	£202.00	£8,840.00

Fostering fees 2021/22

Fees are paid to foster carers for the work they do looking after children. The fee is based upon the carer's skills and training they have completed. Carers can progress through to different levels depending on the training undertaken and the skills developed.

Most carers start at Level 1, but can progress to Levels 2 and 3 with training, following demonstration of core skills and experience.

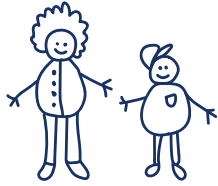
Weekly fees paid to **full-time** foster carers

LEVEL	1 CHILD	2 CHILDREN	3 CHILDREN
1	£144.16	£216.24	£288.32
2	£204.20	£306.30	£436.08
3	£360.40	£510.50	£726.80

Daily fees paid to **part-time** foster carers (when a child is in placement)

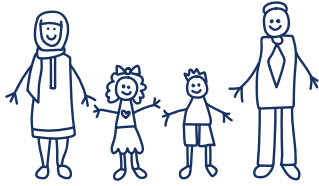
LEVEL	1 CHILD	2 CHILDREN	3 CHILDREN
1	£20.60	£30.89	£41.19
2	£29.17	£43.76	£58.34
3	£41.53	£62.30	£83.60

Examples



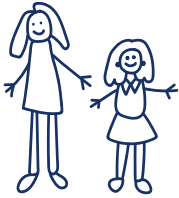
Misha is a **Level 1** foster carer with **one foster child aged 8**.

She receives:



Greetha and Shiju are **Level 2** foster carers with **two foster children, aged 11 and 9**.

They receive:



Tracy is a **Level 3** foster carer with **one foster child aged 13**.

She receives:

FOSTER CARER FEE	£144.16 per week	£306.30 per week	£360.40 per week
BASIC ALLOWANCE	£152.00 per week	£346.00 per week	£173.00 per week
WEEKLY TOTAL	£296.16 per week	£652.30 per week	£533.40 per week
MONTHLY TOTAL	£1,184.64 per month	£2,609.20 per month	£2,133.60 per month



What now?

Though choosing to foster is a big decision, it's people like you that will help to provide safe and loving homes for the children and young people in the Bradford district.

When you are ready to apply, our dedicated fostering team is here to help and support you through the process. To start your fostering journey book a call back with one of our friendly team here www.fosteringbradford.com/book or call us on **01274 434331**.



We are looking forward to meeting you.

Contact us



01274 434331



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www.fosteringbradford.com/book