

for **you**

Rates and charges payable 2018 - 19

Information on revised rates and
charges for 2018 - 19 for Specialist
Children's Services

KCC working for you

www.kent.gov.uk/adultsocialcare



About this booklet

Welcome to the Specialist Children's Services information booklet, containing all the revised rates and charges administered by Kent County Council.

The rates payable and charges levied are subject to review during the year. We hope you find the booklet both informative and handy for quick reference.

Children, Young People and Education Directorate
Sessions House
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XQ

Originally published April 2018,
updated June 2018

This booklet is available in alternative formats and can be explained in other languages. Please call:

Telephone: 03000 41 11 11 or
Text Relay: 18001 03000 41 11 11

Payments for Fostering and charges for Adoption and other services

Contents

1	Foster Care Payments	Page 4
2	Foster Care Skills Based Payments	Page 4
3	Specialist Foster Care Payments	Page 5
4	Disability Enhancement Payments	Page 5
5	Adoption Service Charges	Page 6
6	Adoption Order, Special Guardianship Order and Child Arrangements Order Allowances	Page 6
7	Voluntary Escorts\Workers Mileage Rate	Page 7
8	Other Local Authority Charges	Page 7

1 Foster Care Payments

With effect from 1 April 2018, the rates below (per week) will be paid:

	Age - Years				
	Under 2	2-4	5-10	11-15	16+
Maintenance Element All foster placements	£150.77	£155.08	£172.31	£196.00	£230.46
Reward Element Non-related placements only	0-8 Years			9-18 Years	
	£113.60			£215.77	

Note:

Connected Person foster placements receive only maintenance element unless the required training is undertaken. All other KCC Local Authority foster carers are required to undertake the training and therefore receive both reward and maintenance elements.

2 Foster Care Skills Based Payments

Payments to reward foster carers for their level of skills.

With effect from 1 April 2018, the rates below will apply:

Level 2	£21.04
Level 3	£52.58

3 Specialist Foster Care Payments

With effect from 1 April 2018, the rates below will apply:

	Age - Years	
	0 - 8	9 - 18
Single Placement Supplements Reward (per week) Plus maintenance according to age	£227.20	£431.54

Note:

All foster carers will receive one consolidated weekly payment which will incorporate all the fixed allowances, including maintenance/personal allowance, etc for the child.

Incorporated into the national minimum payment (maintenance element) is financial provision for carer's holidays, birthdays, religious observances & Christmas.

4 Disability Enhancement Payments

An enhancement will be paid to all foster carers of disabled children who are open to the Disabled Children's Service or Sensory Loss Team. There will be an assessment by the child's social worker to determine the level of needs, presented to the funding panel and the enhancement rate will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

Standard Rate £64.73

Enhanced Rate £86.31

5 Adoption Service Charges

Inter-Agency Charges

Charges are agreed by a number of Government and Voluntary Agencies

Local Authorities -

One Child - £27,000

2 Siblings - £43,000

3+ Siblings - £60,000

Voluntary Adoption Agencies

(Updated June 2018)

One Child - £31,000

2 Siblings - £50,000

3 Siblings - £68,000

4 Siblings - £78,000

5 Siblings - to be negotiated on an individual basis

6 Adoption Order, Special Guardianship Order and Child Arrangements Order Allowances

- 1 The local authority recognises that a Child Arrangements Order, Special Guardianship Order or an Adoption Order is evidence that a family/friend carer wishes to make a permanent and substantial commitment to the upbringing of the child/young person. This commitment should be taken to include a willingness to meet the costs associated with the role of the child's primary care-giver. The acceptance of responsibility for children always involves change and sometimes this will involve a change in the standard of living;
- 2 Any financial support provided by the local authority must complement and not duplicate any other financial support being provided for the child; either through state benefits, tax allowances or any financial contributions made by the birth parents or other family members. The support provided by the Children's Services of the authority is not meant to be an alternative to making claims for benefits and tax credits available from other sources;
- 3 The allocation of resources needs to be done consistently having regard to the demands on the authority's resources and the needs of other families, therefore:
 - a) Decisions are made by managers and panels and not by the allocated social workers;
 - b) Means tests are usually applied;
 - c) Any regular payments will be subject to periodic review to establish whether the needs of the family require the continued support and if so whether the level should be changed (increased or decreased).

7 Voluntary Escorts/Workers Mileage Rates

With effect from 1 April 2018, the rate will remain at 45p per mile.

8 Other Local Authority Charges

In line with the regional inter authority protocol, with effect from 1 April 2018 the charges below will apply:

Fostering Service

Social Work Support (excluding travel)	£72.38 (per hour)
---	-------------------

General Review and Assessment

Assessment Rate	£72.38 (per hour)
------------------------	-------------------

*Note Admin fee per invoice is £20.00

Residential Respite Service

The charge to other local authorities for the use of in-house respite residential beds will be agreed by the operational service on an individual basis, and will be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery.

for **you**

Rates and charges payable 2018 - 19

How to get in touch with us

If you would like to get in touch, you can contact us in the following ways:

www.kent.gov.uk/careandsupport

Email: socialservices@kent.gov.uk

Tel: **03000 41 11 11** (if you live in Kent)

Tel: **01634 333 111** (if you live in Medway)

Kent and Medway out of hours service: **03000 41 91 91**

Text relay service: **18001 03000 41 11 11**

A text relay service is available for deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired customers and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

KCC working for you

www.kent.gov.uk/adultsocialcare

