

IFA DPV: KEY CONTRACT FEATURES

SERVICE LEVELS

Core Ages 0-15

Core Ages 16-17

Specialist 0-17

Parent & Child

WEEKLY FEE: What's included?

(See Model Terms – 2.10 Standard Weekly Fee)

- Allowances: *weekly pocket money; birthdays; festivals, savings (minimum £5 week)*
- Food
- Clothing (including school uniform)
- Activities, day trips and holidays
- All school equipment
- Day-to-day transport
- Telephone calls to family
- Toiletries, cosmetics and the cost of a regular haircut.

TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

(Model Terms – Standard Weekly Fee 2.10)

All day-to-day travel costs within a 20-mile radius of the Foster Carer's home and/or up to 2 hours travel time for the foster carer per day (whichever is the greatest). **Any additional mileage costs must be agreed in advance and in writing.** Any additional mileage will be charged at the prevailing Council rate of each of the purchasing Authorities. In London, the expectation is also for the child to be provided with an Oyster card whenever possible.

NOTICE PERIODS

(Model Terms G1.3)

If the **Provider** wishes to terminate an IPA they must first explore all available options with the Local Authority to try and sustain the placement. If the difficulties cannot be resolved, the **Provider must give at least 28 days notice.** This **notice must be given in writing** to the Authorised Officer within that Local Authority. The 28 days only starts when this written notice is received by the Local Authority. This clause should only be overruled if safeguarding concerns have been identified. However, the onus would still be on the provider to identify an alternative placement.

The **Local Authority** can terminate an IPA by giving written notice to the provider. Notice periods are as follows (see Model Terms 1.4):

- one day if the child has been in the placement for seven days or less;
- seven days if the child has been in the placement for more than seven days and less than twelve weeks
- fourteen days if the child has been in the placement for twelve weeks or more and less than twelve calendar months; and
- twenty-eight days if the child has been in the placement for twelve calendar months or longer.

RETAINERS

(Model Terms – 1.8)

Providers are expected to reserve carers for seven days at no charge. As such, **Local Authorities should not pay any retainer fees for the first seven days.** If the retainer continues beyond seven days (i.e. the eighth day), the Provider can charge the Local Authority up to a maximum of 50% of the weekly fee.

CALL-OFF FEES

(Schedule 3 – Pricing Schedule)

Prices submitted by providers on the DPV (i.e. those in CarePlace) are ceiling prices. Providers can charge less than these prices but cannot charge above them for a standard placement.

Most providers have submitted costs for any 'Additional Services' that they offer (e.g. cost of education and the hourly rate for additional staffing hours). This information is on the Provider's profile page. The Provider cannot charge above this submitted rate. Additional Services should ordinarily be time limited and listed as such within the IPA.

Standard prices agreed at time of call-off will be fixed for the entire duration of the placement. Price changes will only be considered if the child's needs significantly change. Final agreement to alter the price will be made via negotiation between the Provider/Local Authority and will require the IPA to be updated and re-signed by both parties.

RE-PRICING

(Schedule 3 – Pricing Schedule – 5. Re-Pricing)

Providers can submit a new price for their service on an annual basis. This will only impact future placements and existing placements will remain at the price agreed at time of call-off. If no re-price is submitted, prices will remain unchanged. Pricing information will be automatically added onto CarePlace.

SIBLING DISCOUNTS

(Schedule 3 - Pricing Schedule: 8. Discounting Structure)

All siblings placed with the same Provider will be subject to a **5% discount**. Providers are responsible for monitoring this and adjusting their invoices accordingly.

Note: The discount applies for siblings placed with the same provider and they do not necessarily need to be with the same foster carers.

Note: Siblings do not need to be placed at the same time. The discount will apply to all siblings from the moment that 2 or more are placed with the provider.

LONG TERM DISCOUNT

(Schedule 3 - Pricing Schedule: 8. Discounting Structure)

Where a child has been in placement for 9 months, the provider will reduce the price for that placement by **5%** from the end of the 9th month for the remainder of the placement. Providers are responsible for monitoring this and adjusting their invoices accordingly.

SOLO PLACEMENTS

(Schedule 3 - Pricing Schedule: 6. Solo Placements)

The price for a solo placement can be negotiated at the time of call-off but cannot exceed **50%** of a standard placement fee. **A solo fee is only applicable when all the following apply:**

- The fostering household is registered for more than one placement and
- There are no other looked after children who live in the household and
- The need for a solo placement has been specifically requested in writing by the Local Authority.