

## Scheme: Fees and allowances for Foster Carers

## The governing principles of the scheme

- recognises the individual support needs of the child

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- is equitable and fair

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- gives reward and recognition for the ongoing training and resilience of the carer

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- is affordable

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- recognises that support from DCC continues to be valued

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- has a fair assessment process

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- is simple. Brings together all allowances

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- is competitive with Independent Fostering Agencies

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- has clear expectations for carers

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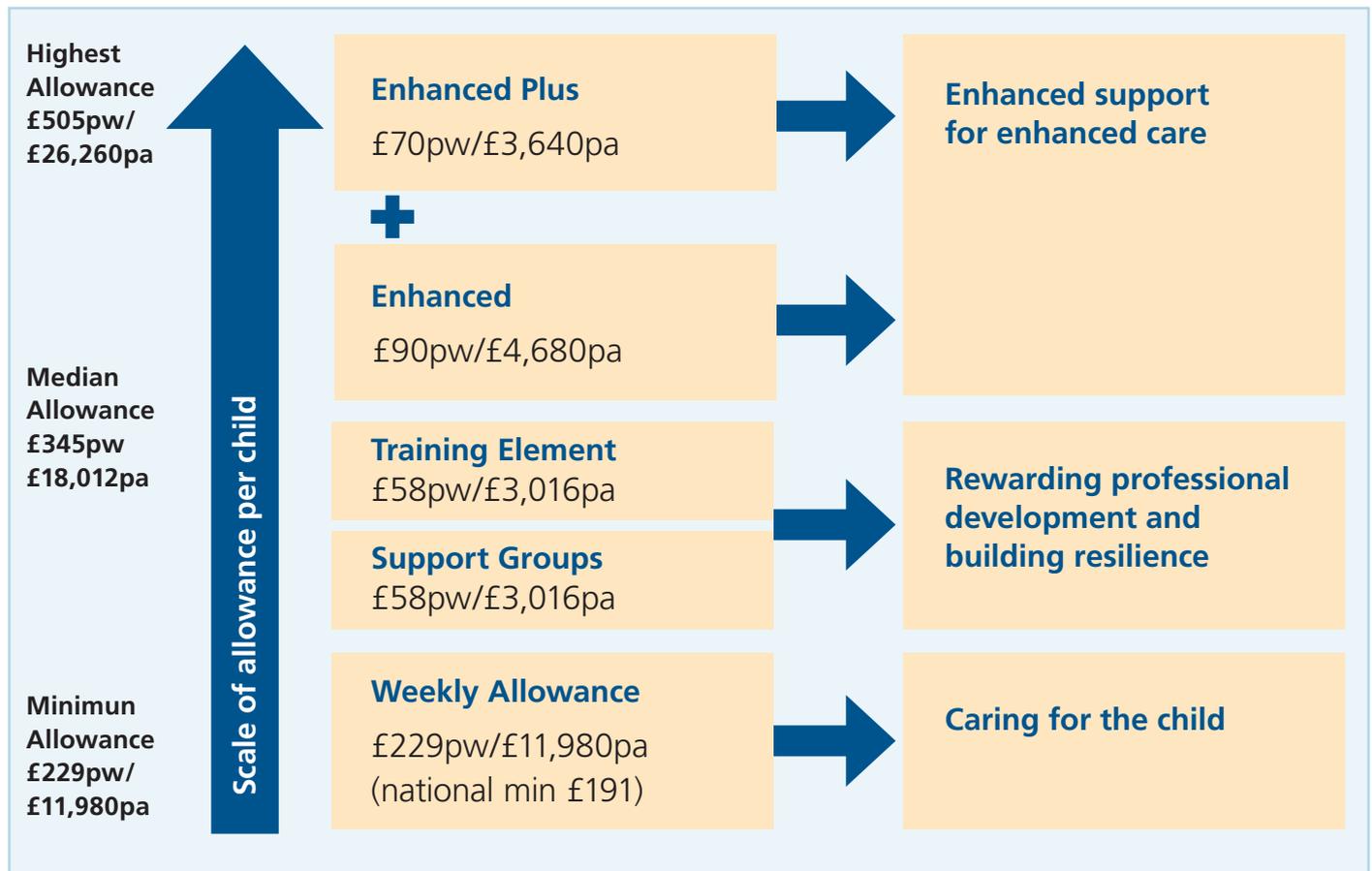
- has the flexibility to reward for the work done

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- is transparent and understandable

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The Model



## The Model

- 1** The weekly allowance of £229 is allocated to cover the basic expenses of caring for a child. **All carers will receive this payment.**

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- 2** The model will **reward and recognise carers'** commitment to personal development and building resilience. If a carer attends **6 training events** in a year then this will be **recognised and rewarded**. If a carer attends **6 support groups** then this will be **recognised and rewarded too**.  
  
This will **encourage personal development** and **promote participation in support groups** where experience, fresh ideas and mutual support can be shared.

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- 3** The primary principle is that the support **needs of children are recognised**. This element enables **enhanced support** and **recognition** for those carers caring for **children with enhanced needs**.  
  
An **Enhanced Plus** element has been included to recognise the challenges of caring for the **most traumatised children**.

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- 4** The level of reward **remains the same for the duration of the placement**. The aim is to **reward and recognise successful care giving**. The Enhanced element will **not be removed** if the child settles down.

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- 5** **Income protection** for carers is **guaranteed** until all current foster placements **come to an end**.

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- 6** Birthday, holiday and festival **allowances will be paid** on or near the relevant date.

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- 7** The child's **care plan** will capture any **additional resources** that may be required to ensure the carer is able to meet the child's needs.

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