**Changes to Fostering Payments for Mileage/Equipment/Day Care from the 4th September 2023.**

**Mileage:**

Currently SCT foster carers are receiving 32.1p in mileage. This is well below the HMRC recommended mileage rates.

**Mileage payments are increased to the HMRC rate of 45p per mile.**

**Day-Care:**

SCT are currently paying £10 per day for day care. This is well below that which would be expected within a fostering agency.

**Day-care to be paid at £5 per hour per child with Registered Manager approval.**

**Equipment Payments:**

As part of all fostering payments, it is important that foster carers are provided with the financial support to enable them to care safely for the children in they are looking after. This is in line with the National Minimum Standards for fostering and SCT’s health and safety responsibilities. The payments have been in place for some time and have now been uplifted.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Previous | Increase 2023-2024 |
| Car Seats | £42.85 | £70.00 |
| Stairgate | £20.83 | £30.00 |
| Single Buggies | £116.16 | None |
| Double Buggies | £189.00 | None |
| Bed and mattress | £189.00 | None |
| Drawers | £99.00 | None |
| Bedding Bale | £39.57 | None |
| Cot & Mattress | £183.33 | None |
| Wardrobe | £179. | None |
| **Additions** |  |  |
| Start-up Baby Equipment |  |  |
| Changing mat/Bag | £30.00 | £30.00 |
| Steriliser | £50.00 | £50.00 |
| Highchair | £50.00 | £50.00 |
| Monitor | £50.00 | £50.00 |

Equipment remains the property of SCT and should not be handed over at the point of any move without written agreement from the fostering service manager.

Receipts should be provided by foster carers.