GUIDE FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ON POCKET MONEY AND SAVINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Pocket money per week</th>
<th>Savings per week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>£5</td>
<td>£10 per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>As under 5’s will be too young to be given pocket money, the weekly amount will be added to the child’s savings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>£5</td>
<td>£10 per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td>£10 per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>£15</td>
<td>£10 per week</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

These amounts will be reviewed in March each year.

**Things you need to know about your savings**

- Savings will be placed in a savings account until you leave care.
- You will be able to check how much has been saved for you at any time by asking your carer, social worker or personal adviser to show you the account. Your Independent Reviewing Officer will ask to see the savings account at every child care review to make sure that the correct amount is being saved for you.
- If your pocket money has been withheld (see box over for reasons this may happen), it will be placed in this account and you will not be able to receive it until the age of 18.
- You can add to this savings account if you wish to.
Things you need to know about your pocket money

- The pocket money is for you to spend how you choose.

- You might want to save some pocket money for something special. If you do, you can have this money when you choose, as it is separate to the savings your carer will put aside for you.

- Your pocket money will not be withheld unless:
  - you are using the money irresponsibly e.g. buying illegal substances, gambling;
  - you deliberately break things.

  If it is to be withheld, this will be discussed and agreed by your Social Worker or Personal Advisor and your carer. You must be informed of the reason why, for how long and what you need to do to change the arrangement. Any withheld pocket money will be placed in your savings account.

- You will not be expected to use your pocket money for planned leisure activities such as cinema, bowling or club membership. Your carer will usually pay for this.

- If you have a planned activity where you will be out at a meal time, your carer will give you money to buy food. You will not be expected to use your pocket money.

- Your carer will buy the toiletries you need, but if you want to upgrade to something more special, you can use your pocket money or request it as a birthday gift.

- If you are aged 10 or above your carer will give you an allowance for your mobile phone. If you spend over this allowance you will be expected to top up with your pocket money.

- You will receive any increase due the week after your birthday.

You will also receive birthday and festival gifts or money. Information on this can be provided by your Social Worker or Personal Advisor.

If you have any concerns about your pocket money or savings, talk to your carer, Social Worker or Personal Advisor. Or you can contact Jan the Children’s Rights Advocate on 020 8708 5811.

Implementation date 01.10.2015