



ANDERIDA ADOLESCENT CARE

ALLOWANCES POLICY

Allowances

Children and Young People are entitled to weekly allowances that intend to support independence, lifestyle and promote living skills around budgeting. These allowances include pocket money, toiletries, clothing, leisure activities as well as savings that can be earned through day-to-day engagement.

A guideline of weekly allowances is:

Pocket Money - £7 a week (£3.50 Monday and £3.50 Friday).

Room Tidy - £3 a week (£1.50 Monday and £1.50 Friday).

Toiletries - £7.50 every Friday.

Clothing - £15 every Friday.

Activities - £20 every Friday.

(An extra £10 is given during holidays making this £30).

Phone allowance - £5 every Friday.

With support from mentors, a Young Person has access to their allowances throughout their week and will be helped to budget these to ensure they are able to make the most of their spending. If allowances are not spent these are continually rolled over.

A Young Person can work towards building trust to spend money on their own without mentors present. This is judged on a time-to-time basis and when it feels safe, manageable, and appropriate for the Young Person.

Allowances are recorded in a Young Person's daily file on a spreadsheet that clearly sets out all allowance's month by month. This helps to track spending and saving as well as supporting the Young People to build skills around budgeting.

Mentors are to be mindful around Young People wanting to use designated allowances for other items etc. This can sometimes be agreed under specific circumstances but should be agreed by a Manager, Deputy or Senior within the home.

Anderida will be allocating up to £50 for a hobby fund per month for each Young Person which can go towards a specific hobby that the Young Persons enjoy participating in and/or are a part of. For example, this could be something like basketball training, boxing, horse riding or singing lessons. Hopefully, this will contribute towards building a healthy, positive and active lifestyle; within the community. Please note, that the homes must claim back this allowance through Jane Bettley (jane.bettley@anderidacare.co.uk) as this does not go automatically into the Young Person's allowances.

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KS/SF 13.04.2022

KS/BC 04.07.2022

Savings

JISA

Young People are entitled to savings during their time in Anderida which is set up by their Local Authority. This is called a JISA.

A Young Person must be in care for a full year before this can be set up. The JISA system is run by The Share Foundation. Anderida are then responsible for sending any payments to them. Young people will eventually receive statements of any monies paid into their JISA.

To continue to build on the Young Person's future savings, Anderida will automatically add £10 every week to the Young Person's JISA. The Young Person will continue to be able to earn £15 through the point system.

A Young Person will earn daily A-points, this is then matched and put into a JISA account that a Young Person has access to once they have turned 18.

A Points

A-Points are individual to each Young Person and should reflect some of their daily challenges and achievements. Young People are taken through their A-points upon their arrival so they have input into some of the challenges they may face in order to have incentives around this. These should be reviewed regularly to ensure all of these are relevant and still achievable for the Young Person.

A-point guidance:

10 A-points = 5p

It should average out that they can earn a maximum of £30 a week so up to £15 JISA and £15 A-points. However, it should be very hard to achieve over £20 so these extra points are usually weighted in the harder areas.

Young People also have the opportunity to earn 50 Bonus A-Points (AWESOME) if they receive two or less of their maximum daily A-Points.

A-Points like allowances are continually rolled over onto the next week.

Young People may request their A-points through the Anderida website using The Hive. Young People have the opportunity to communicate what they would like this money for and how much they are requesting. It is important that Young People do this themselves, so they become used to adult processes around money, vouchers, IT etc. This is then reviewed and if appropriate will be accessible after a week of requesting. This is to discourage impulse buying and ensure Young People can reflect on how they are spending their money.

Independence

Young People have the opportunity to move to an independent budget, this is predominantly child focused and based on the circumstances of the Young Person.

An Independent food budget consists of the following –

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5 Main Meals - £25 a week.

The home provides 2 meals (Wednesday and Sunday) as these meals revolve around World Food Night and a Sunday Roast.

Take Away/M meal Out

Young people also have the opportunity to purchase themselves a takeaway on the first Saturday of every month, this is budgeted at £10. Alternatively, if the young person would prefer to go out and have a meal, this is budgeted at £10 – £20.

Weekly Independent Budget - £44 a week.

This takes into account all allowances a Young Person would normally receive minus room tidy allowance.

Universal Credit - £60 per week.

Young People can be supported to access this once they turn 18.

There may be exceptions to these so please use this as a guideline and check with Managers.

Sanctions

Government guidelines state that up to two thirds of a Young Person's allowance can be taken to cover the cost of damage caused in the home. **(SEE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY).**

£3.20 if they receive £5 pocket money.

£2.20 if they receive £3.50 pocket money.

This equates to two thirds of their pocket money which is in line with legal guidelines.

Sanctions are to be decided on a time-by-time basis and to be agreed by the homes Manager. Most often within Anderida homes, a third will be taken from the earned pocket money –

£1.60 if they receive £5 pocket money.

£1.10 if they receive £3.50 pocket money.

An agreed amount and length of time will be discussed and confirmed by the Manager of the home.

Sanctions need to be recorded in the consequence log and placed in the home's diary until agreed length of time has expired.

Sanctions are always implemented as a last resort after all other forms of reparation have been explored.

(SEE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY).

Activities and family visits

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Young People will always be supported to spend safe time with their family. On occasions a Young Person or their family may not have enough funds to cover an activity. The Young Person's LA can be contacted in order to support this visit. Contributions from the home to support this are to be discussed and agreed by Managers/Deputies/Seniors in the home.

Allowances/budget for furniture

Up to £150 can be spent on soft furnishings for a young person's bedroom. Anything else that is needed should be afforded out of the homes budget.

Should the home require bigger pieces of furniture, a request for this must be submitted directly to Jane Bettley (jane.bettley@anderidacare.co.uk).