



# What is Supported Lodgings?

**SUPPORTWITHUS**

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering)

 @hertfordshirefostering  @HCCFosterAdopt

In partnership with

 **Stonewall**

  
**Hertfordshire**

## What is Supported Lodgings?

**Supported lodgings provide a safe and supportive placement for young people 16+. The carer will offer emotional and practical support to help prepare them for living more independently.**



### What do supported lodgings carers offer?

As a carer, you will offer accommodation for a young person within your home. You will need to provide a room which is safe, comfortable and clean. Many young people who require supported lodgings placements are not yet ready for independent living. Along with providing accommodation and meals, you will also help them develop life skills such as budgetting, shopping and preparing their own meals, in preparation for independent living. The aim is to enable young people to develop their skills and confidence so they are able to move on into more independent accommodation.

### Who can be a supported lodgings carer?

**Supported lodgings carers are people who:**

- live locally
- have a spare room in their home
- are in good health

**They can be:**

- living with their family or on their own
- male or female
- younger or older
- from any ethnic background
- working or not working

Supported lodgings carers will need to have an understanding of the issues faced by young people and have an interest in helping them. They must be willing to welcome a young person into their home and to respect them as individuals. They must also be able to work with Children's Services.

# Who are the young people referred for supported lodgings?

## Young people need to be:

- in education or employment
- have a positive attitude about living with a carer
- willing to develop their independence skills

## How is the placement agreed?

The young person's social worker or personal advisor will meet with the young person to discuss personal plans for the future by completing a pathway plan. If it is felt that a supported lodgings placement will best meet the young person's needs, a referral is made to the supported lodgings scheme.

## Expectation required of the scheme

The young person needs to be in education or employment, be willing to develop their independence skills and have a positive attitude about living with a carer.

A meeting will be arranged between the young person, the supported lodgings worker and young person's social worker to discuss the scheme in detail and explain the expectations.

The supported lodgings worker will then match the young person to a carer with a vacancy.

## Moving to supported lodgings

When a suitable placement is found a meeting will be arranged to view the accommodation and meet the carer with the supported lodgings worker.

If everyone agrees then a plan is made for the young person to spend an evening with the carer before a final decision is made about moving in.

All young people will participate in a placement agreement which sets out the expectations of the young person and the carer, which you will also sign. Once the young person is in placement the social worker or personal advisor continues to visit the young person on a regular basis.

The role of the supported lodgings worker is to offer support to the carer and help them meet the expectations of the placement.

## Moving out of supported lodgings

All placements are assessed individually and the social worker or personal advisor will continue to review the young person's pathway plan. Together, the young person, carer and social worker/personal advisor assess whether they have developed the practical and emotional skills to move onto independent living.

If the young person remains in placement after they are 18 the scheme will require the young person to make a housing benefit claim depending on their circumstances.

To find out more about  
Supported Lodgings please visit:

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering)

Alternatively, you can call the  
recruitment team on:

**0800 917 0925**



*"It is different every day,  
they are always old enough  
to understand what they  
should do, you can explain  
and they do respond. It is  
nice to have someone on a  
level to talk to."*

**SUPPORTWITHUS**

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering)



@hertfordshirefostering



@HCCFosterAdopt

In partnership with



**Stonewall**

