



KENT

SUPPORTED

HOMES

**Helping young people on their journey
into adulthood and independence**

03000 420 002
kentfostering.co.uk



What is Kent Supported Homes?

The transition to adulthood is not one that is easy for many young people, and particularly for those young people who have been in care because of trauma and breakdown in their own family. Kent Supported Homes provides accommodation therefore, for young people and care leavers aged between 16 and 21, who are not yet ready to live independently. Kent Supported Homes enables young people to develop confidence, emotional resilience, and independent living skills in a safe and supportive setting, allowing them to move on from the arrangement by the time they reach the age of 21, or in some circumstances 25 if they are in further education.



The role of a Kent Supported Homes host

As a Kent Supported Homes Host you will teach, guide and assist young people to gain essential practical living skills, such as budgeting, cooking and cleaning, alongside providing them with much needed emotional support to continue to recover from their previous experiences and manage challenges, preparing them for independent adult life.

You must have the physical room to accommodate a young person, be emotionally resilient, be able to support the young person's self-esteem and confidence, and aid them on their pathway to independence. It is a requirement that hosts offering a supported home have the capacity to provide each young person with a bedroom of their own (furnished and maintained to a good standard) as well as access to and use of kitchen and bathroom facilities, and that no more than three young people are offered accommodation and support at any one time. All hosts/host families are assessed, checked and trained for their role and offered full and ongoing support once a young person comes to live with them.

Approved KSH hosts will receive comprehensive training, including a Pre-Panel induction programme and courses such as Roles and Responsibilities, Managing Challenging Behaviour and Digital Safeguarding, extending to more specialised courses on young people's mental health and understanding and supporting LGBTQ+ young people. Ongoing support and supervision from a dedicated Supported Homes Accommodation Officer is provided to all hosts.



Who are we?

Kent Supported Homes is part of Kent County Council's fostering service – Kent Fostering and the 18+ Care Leavers Service. We are the most experienced fostering service in Kent, and we have been looking after children and young people for over 40 years. We are a public service and not for profit, and therefore our only goal is to provide safe, nurturing homes for our children and young people.

Unlike other independent supported lodgings providers, we make a commitment to arrange for our young care leavers in Kent to live with Kent Supported Homes providers, so your meetings and commitments will be local to where you live. Our social workers, personal advisors and accommodation officers are local too.

As a KSH host, you will be supported throughout every step of your assessment, approval, training and support of young people by an experienced and dedicated team of professionals, including 24-hour support through our Accommodation Team and county out-of-hours service.



Why choose Kent Supported Homes?

As a KSH host, you will receive:

- A standard payment of £150 per week for 15 hours support or an enhanced payment of £250 per week for 25 hours support, £300 per week will be paid for accommodation and support for parent and child.
- A rental payment from the young person to their hosts at either £70 per week or at the Local Authority Housing rate.
- £10 per week from the young person to contribute to utilities and £20 per week contribution towards food.
- Two-week paid break.
- Specialist supervision, training and support from a dedicated team.
- Access to 24-hour support.



What our KSH hosts say!

It is so rewarding to see young people gain their confidence and independence and move forward in life, knowing that you have played some part in their journey and success. The young people I have supported have continued to keep in touch, sharing their achievements and successes and their new relationships. To watch them thrive and continue to develop is incredibly rewarding.

Melanie

I began working as a supported homes host in 2016 and it was the best decision that I could have made. It's very fulfilling knowing that you have helped vulnerable young adults adjust to adult life, whether it's just dealing with day-to-day chores, which will need to be done when they go into independence, or helping them deal with factors that are very stressful to them.

Jane

The support provided to young people through Kent Supported Homes allows young people to have the stability needed to make better choices, giving them the opportunity to prepare for the transition to independence so that they have the necessary skills to manage this successfully. We hope to provide the invaluable support and reassurance when needed and help these young adults recognise that they are able to successfully manage these independent aspects of their lives and do it well.

Chris

Join our team!



It is rare that young people are ready to leave home at 18, particularly for those who have experienced trauma and challenge in their lives. It is important that young people, including our care leavers, do not feel overwhelmed or subject to an instant expectation of adulthood, and that we as a service continue our commitment to them, through ensuring the provision of accommodation, support and guidance during their transition to more independent living.

Our young people need the time and dedication to prepare them for the future and in turn promote better life chances. Kent Supported Homes offers an excellent opportunity for individuals, couples and families in Kent to work with our local young people aged 16 or over towards living independently. We are looking for potential hosts, who have a genuine desire to support older young people in Kent, meaning that they take a real interest in the lives of young people and wish to support and help them to learn the necessary skills that they need to live independently.

By welcoming a young person into your home, you can provide the knowledge, practical skills and emotional support they will need for independence and adult life. We need hosts to provide opportunities for our young people to have more time to strengthen their independence skills whilst feeling safe and cared about in a supportive home.

Maria Cordrey, Kent Supported Homes Development Team

Want to know more? Our enquiries team would love to hear from you!

If you are interested in working with us to make an amazing difference to the lives of young adults in Kent, please get in touch with our enquiries team today!

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www.kentfostering.co.uk/kent-supported-homes

