

What's Next?

**A PROFESSIONALS' GUIDE TO POST-16
ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS
FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE
LEAVERS**

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Supported Lodgings

Living in a family home with Supported Lodging Carers

Supported Lodgings is an arrangement whereby a young person lives with a family or individual who has a spare room and is willing to provide support, guidance and practical assistance.

Young people would have their own bedroom but would share the rest of the home facilities. The placement agreement plan would set out the level of support provided, house rules, expectations around behaviour and any other restrictions relating to the accommodation.

This option is available to all looked after children and care leavers aged 16 or over. It is particularly suited to young people who want to live in a family-setting but also want a degree of independence. It is intended to provide young people with the opportunity to develop their independence skills and get used to increasing levels of freedom before moving into their own accommodation. While living in Supported Lodgings the young person will also be learning the crucial skills of negotiation and compromise.

LOCATION
Bournemouth and Poole

Referral Route
ARTReferrals@Bournemouth.gov.uk
01202 456153

Age range	16-21 (25 if in fulltime education)
Length of stay	Variable. Typically until 21
Access to property	Own keys
Support	Informal support
Costs for LA	£135-185 per week
Costs for young person	Food, transport and all personal items.
Facilities (typical)	Laundry, cooking, Wi-Fi



Staying Put

Remaining with foster cares beyond the young person's eighteenth birthday

Staying Put is an arrangement whereby a young person can remain with their foster carers until they are 21 years (or until they have finished fulltime education) to give them an extended period of time in the family home before moving into independence.

The young person will become an adult member of the household and the foster carers will therefore need to return to their Fostering Panel so that the updated circumstances can be added to their records (i.e. their Form F). The young person may require a DBS check to be completed.

The placement differs from a foster care placement as none of the allowances paid to foster carers continue. The young person is therefore responsible for buying their own clothes, transport and personal items. Food may or may not be included.

Staying Put arrangements work best when there is a strong relationship between a young person and their carer. Typically Staying Put is considered for young people who have been with the same carers for a long time. There is no obligation on either the young person or the carers to agree to this arrangement

Staying Put is negotiated on a case by case basis and costs vary.

LOCATION

The home of the young person's existing foster carer

Referral Route

ART.contracts@Bournemouth.gov.uk

ART Contract Officer

01202 458825

Age Range	18 – 21 (25 if in fulltime education)
Length of Stay	Variable. Typically until 21
Access to property	Own keys
Support	Agreed level of support from former foster carer
Costs for LA	Agreed on case-by-case basis
Costs for Young Person	Food, transport and all personal items.
Facilities (typical)	Laundry, cooking, Wi-Fi



Semi-Independent Living

Self-contained flat with floating support

This is an option for looked after children aged 16.5 or over who would like to live more independently. The accommodation would typically be a furnished one bedroom or studio flat. The young person would live alone but would have floating support from a Key Worker. The level of support can be tailored to meet the young person's needs but it would typically be 8-15 hours a week between Monday and Friday.

A provider would rent the property and then charge the Local Authority a weekly fee that included both the rent and floating support. The provider would take on the liability for the property but would require the young person to sign a licence agreement.

There is the possibility that the young person could remain in the property beyond their eighteenth birthday, taking on the lease in their own right. This is agreed on a case-by-case basis and is largely dependent on the private landlord agreeing to this.

LOCATION

Anywhere in England

Referral Route

ARTReferrals@Bournemouth.gov.uk

01202 456153

Age Range	16.5 - 18
Length of Stay	Variable. Normally until 18
Access to property	Own keys
Out of hours	Providers offer 24-hour duty service
Support	Typically 8-15 per week
Costs to LA	£600 - £800 per week
Costs to Young Person	Food, transport and all personal items.
Facilities (typical)	Laundry, cooking

Supported Housing

33 units of accommodation with on-site support in four locations across Bournemouth

All four properties are located in popular areas of Bournemouth with good transport links and access to shops and local facilities. All properties are furnished.

This option is available to looked after children aged 16 or over. Young people will have responsibility for paying a weekly service charge, bills, food and personal items from their personal allowance. Charges will vary depending on the provider. Not all of the residents would be looked after children but they would all be aged between 16-18.

Note: allocation to these properties is managed through Bournemouth Council's Supporting People Hub (SP Hub).

High Support (23 rooms)

Provision with a high-level of support is available in either Bournemouth Triangle or Springbourne. The majority of rooms are studio or one bedroom flats, although there are a number of larger rooms designed for two young people to share. Some flats have their own kitchen while others are shared. In some properties meals can be provided.

Properties are staffed 24 hours a day and young people receive circa 10-13 hours of direct support each week. This includes work to help prepare young people develop their independence skills.

Medium Support (10 rooms)

Five rooms in a shared house and five self-contained flats, both in the Charminster area of Bournemouth. Young people will share kitchen facilities and be expected to cook for themselves. Young people will receive up to 5 hours of support each week.

LOCATION

Bournemouth Triangle,
Charminster and
Springbourne

Referral Route

sp.hub@bournemouth.gov.uk
01202 451265

Age Range	16-17
Length of Stay	To move by (or very soon after) 18 th birthday
Access to property	Own keys
Out of hours	High: staff on site 24/7 Medium: staff during office hours and on-call out of hours
Support	5 – 13 hours per week
Costs to LA	Circa £300 per week
Costs to Young Person	Bills, food, transport and all personal items
Facilities	Laundry, cooking, Wi-Fi



ART Supported Housing

4 flats with on-site support in central Bournemouth.

This provision is very similar to the 'High Support' Supported Housing option (page 6) and the only significant difference is that it is funded by children's social care. As it is funded by children's social care it is only available to looked after children, although they would be in the same building as other 16-18 year olds accommodated through the SP Hub.

There is scope for ART to work with the provider to develop tailored support packages which meet the needs of individual young people

The location also makes it easy for Social Workers and Personal Advisers to have regular contact with young people.

LOCATION

Bournemouth Triangle

Referral Route

ARTReferrals@Bournemouth.gov.uk

01202 456153

Age Range	16-17
Length of Stay	To move on by (or very soon after) 18 th birthday
Access to property	Own keys
Out of hours	Staff on site 24/7
Support	Variable
Costs to LA	£450 a week
Costs to Young Person	Transport and all personal items.
Facilities (typical)	Laundry, cooking, Wi-Fi

ART Training Flat

A one-bedroom flat owned by the Local Authority where looked after children can stay for short periods of time to learn independence skills

The one-bedroom flat is located in the Kinson area of Bournemouth. The flat is fully furnished and consists of a bedroom, lounge, kitchen and bathroom.

The flat is available for any looked after child or care leaver aged 16 or over. It is designed to give young people their first experience of living independently and they are therefore expected to cook, clean, and pay bills as they would in their own property. Electricity is by key meter and will need to be maintained by the young person. It is very flexible how long young people can stay in the flat but generally it is between 1 to 3 weeks.

A period of time in this Training Flat should be considered as a stepping stone towards other independence options. Young people do not receive any additional support (other than that provided by their Social Worker/Personal Adviser).

LOCATION

Kinson area of Bournemouth

Referral Route

ARTReferrals@Bournemouth.gov.uk
01202 456153

Age Range	16-19
Length of Stay	Very flexible but generally 1 - 3 weeks
Access to property	Own keys
Out of hours	None
Support	None
Costs to LA	No cost
Cost to Young Person	£5 per week service charge + bills
Facilities (typical)	Laundry, cooking, television



Post-16 Transition Service



This post-16 transition service offers accommodation, support, counselling and education to young people aged 16-25 years.

Young people receive a comprehensive needs assessment on entry to the service and this informs the level of support that they then receive.

Accommodation consists of a relatively small home which can accommodate two to four young people at one time. Each young person has their own private bedroom but all other facilities are communal. The accommodation is usually near bus routes/train stations and local colleges.

This accommodation type should be considered for young people moving towards independence but who still require a high level of support. It may also be beneficial for young people who do not want to be in accommodation with a large number of other young people.

LOCATION
Bournemouth/Poole,
Southampton and
Portsmouth

Referral Route
ARTReferrals@Bournemouth.gov.uk
01202 456153

Age Range	16 – 25
Length of Stay	Medium or long term up to 25
Access to property	Own key
Out of hours	Provider offers 24 hour duty service
Support	Based on an assessment
Costs to LA	£1800 - £2800 a week
Costs to Young Person	None
Facilities (typical)	Laundry, cooking, Wi-Fi

Independent Living



Support for young people who are ready to move into their own accommodation

If a young person (aged 18 or over) would like to live independently, and it is agreed that they are able to do so, then there are a number of ways that the Local Authority might be able to help.

Quota Flats

Bournemouth Housing set aside 15 'quota flats' for care leavers every year. If a young person is put forward for this it means that they are given 'Gold Band Status' which gives them a higher priority when bidding for housing.

This would typically be an option for care leavers who have demonstrated that they can live independently and could successfully maintain a tenancy. To access a quota flat the Social Worker or Personal Adviser should inform their Manager. The Team Manager would then take the case on their behalf to the Housing Allocations Meeting where a decision will be made.

Rent Deposit Scheme

If a young person would like to move into privately rented accommodation it may be that they need a guarantor or a sizeable rent deposit. In these situations the Local Authority might be able to help.

If a Social Worker or Personal Adviser would like a young person to be supported in this way they should inform their Manager. The Team Manager would then take the case on their behalf to the Housing Allocations Meeting where a decision will be made.

This document has been produced by the Access to Resources Team to support professionals who want to better understand post-16 accommodation options available in Bournemouth. For further information about accommodation options for young people please contact the Team directly.

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