

# Child Trust Fund Options

Saving for your child's future



### Making the most of their Child Trust Fund

Forester Life is part of the international financial services organisation, Foresters Financial, which has a proud history of operating for over 145 years and looks after more than 3 million customers and members. We offer you the choice in how you do business with us and provide a range of affordable and straightforward financial solutions.

### Child Trust Fund - Options

The Child Trust Fund - Options is a simple and affordable way of building up a tax-free lump sum for their future.

It's never too early to start putting money aside for your child's future. You may not know what they want to be when they grow up, but one thing is for certain, a lump sum pay out when they reach 18 could open up more choices and opportunities for them — from a helping hand with university costs, a deposit on a new home or paying for their first car.

### Choice in how you do business

You, family and friends can make contributions in a way that suits you – online, over the phone, by post or with a Forester Life Financial Adviser. Anyone making a contribution will just need the child's Plan number and date of birth.

### Saving with us at a glance

- Tax-efficient savings.
- Start saving for their future from as little as £10 (contribution year runs from birthday to birthday).
- Choice of an additional fund invest in the Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed Fund.
- Family and friends can contribute too.
- The child will have access to the money at age 18.
- A personal Financial Adviser will be on hand as and when you require.
- You have access to online account management, My Plans.





### Save for their future

The Child Trust Fund - Options offers a straightforward and affordable way to invest. A lump sum at age 18 can open up a wide range of choices and opportunities. Savings can start from as little as £10 and you have the ability to change contributions at any time giving you payment flexibility to suit your needs.





### Making flexible payments work for you

Both monthly and/or single contributions can be made into the Child Trust Fund - Options - either by direct debit or standing order for monthly contributions, or by cheque, debit card and/or direct from your bank (direct credit) for single contributions

Payments into the Plan are completely flexible, and you can increase your direct debit at any time, subject to a minimum of £5 per month and/or £10 for single contributions. You will not be able to increase your contributions to more than the HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) maximum allowable limit - please visit foresters.com

All contributions to the Child Trust Fund - Options are considered a gift and cannot be returned. To provide your child with the best start in adult life you should aim to save a monthly and/or single contribution to ensure you meet your projected investment target for your child.

### Keep your savings in line with inflation

To help your savings keep pace with inflation we will automatically increase the amount of your monthly contributions in line with the Retail Price Index, subject to a minimum of 2.5%. We will write to you each year to let you know this is happening, and if you do not wish for your contribution to increase, just let us know 14 days before this is due.

You are able to stop and reduce your monthly contributions at any time, subject to the minimum of £10.

### Family and friends can contribute too

Anyone from grandparents to other family members or even friends can add into your child's Child Trust Fund (CTF) – making it an ideal place for investing birthday money or any other financial gifts your child may receive.

### Keeping you informed

Although the CTF can only be accessed by your child at age 18 you may want to keep an eye on how the Plan is performing.

If the Plan has received any contributions in the birthday year, and the Plan value exceeds £300, we will send a statement to the Registered Contact showing the payments received, the number of units held and the value of the child's Plan. In any event statements will always be sent on the child's  $11^{\text{th}}$  and  $16^{\text{th}}$  birthday, and just before they reach 18.

If you would like to check the unit price at any time, simply visit foresters.com. You can view the value of the Plan at anytime on your online My Plans account, visit newmyplans.foresters.co.uk. A Financial Adviser is also on hand to help and discuss your savings goals throughout your child's Plan.

## Additional investment option

In addition to the current fund choice, the Registered Contact has the option to switch part or all of the investment into our Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed Fund which is managed by the experienced fund management team at Schroders – let the experts do it for you.

### **Introducing Schroders**

Schroders is an independent, dedicated asset manager with a strong heritage and culture based on over 200 years' experience of investment markets.

### Professionally managed for you

By investing in the Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed Fund, your savings will be managed for you by the experienced fund management team at Schroders, giving the potential for a good balanced return. They are on hand to identify investment opportunities - so you don't have to.

### How your contributions will be invested

The Child Trust Fund - Options is a unit-linked plan and contributions will be used to purchase units in the current fund(s). The Registered Contact may switch either part or all of the child's CTF into the funds available. We do not charge for any fund switches.

If you choose to invest in our Foresters Stakeholder (Schroders) Managed Fund, your contributions will be invested in a professionally managed portfolio of UK and international shares along with government and corporate securities and cash. With a mixed asset investment, the aim is to generate a steady growth over the medium to longer-term.

Please refer to the Plan Document sent to the Registered Contact for details of the charges.

As with all stock market investments the value may fall as well as rise and you may get back less than has been invested.





### **Schroders**

### What else you should know

We are here to answer your questions and make sure you get the most of your product and the service we provide. Important information about the role of the Registered Contact, accessing the money and the tax treatment that applies to the Child Trust Fund - Options can be found below.

### The role of the Registered Contact

The Registered Contact is responsible for managing the Plan so should keep all of the paperwork, report changes such as change of address and is the only person who can change the account or provider.

As only one person can be the Registered Contact, their consent will normally be required for any changes.

When the Planholder (the child) turns 16 they can become the Registered Contact and manage their own account if they want to.

### Accessing the money at age 18

At least a month before the Planholder reaches 18 we will write to them providing the details of the options available following their birthday.

On their  $18^{\text{th}}$  birthday the CTF will mature and automatically be transferred to an ISA in their name. The ISA will continue to invest in the same fund as before, with the same charges.

From age 18 onwards the Planholder will have a variety of options. The money can be left in the Plan before deciding whether to withdraw the money, or reinvest all or some of the money in an Adult ISA.

They will be able to do this online, over the phone, or get face-to-face advice should they wish. For more information, visit foresters.com/ctfhub

### Tax treatment

The amount paid to the Planholder at age 18 is completely free from Income and Capital Gains Tax.

Tax treatment depends on individual circumstances and may be subject to change in the future.

### The Plan has an additional benefit

In the unfortunate event of the Planholder's death before age 18 we will pay out 101% of the value of the Child Trust Fund - Options to the Planholder's legal personal representatives.

### If you wish to transfer out

Forester Life do not charge for any transfers. A Child Trust Fund - Options can be transferred to a Forester Life Junior ISA, another Junior ISA provider, or to another CTF provider.



### Additional information

Our goal is to set the highest standards in our industry with a reputation for quality and service through everything we do. Information about how to make a complaint and other additional information you may need about the Plan can be found below.

### If you are unhappy with our service

We take the concerns of our customers very seriously. If you are unhappy with any aspect of the service provided by us, please write to the Customer Relations Officer, Forester Life, Foresters House, 2 Cromwell Avenue, Bromley BR2 9BF.

If we do not deal with your complaint to your satisfaction, you can complain to: The Financial Ombudsman Service, Exchange Tower, London E14 9SR (telephone 0300 123 9123, email complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk or visit www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk). Making a complaint will not prejudice your right to take legal action.

You can view the Forester Life customer complaints procedure at **foresters.com** or phone 0333 600 0333 for a copy.

### We are covered by the FSCS

The Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) is the UK's compensation fund for customers of authorised financial services firms.

Individual customers are covered by the FSCS which means that in the unlikely event that we cannot meet our obligations you will be entitled to make a claim for compensation from the FSCS.

The amount of compensation you may be entitled to depends on the specific circumstances of your claim.

Further information about compensation scheme arrangements is available from the FSCS at fscs.org.uk or by phone on 0800 678 1100.

### Important information

All Forester Life Plans are subject to the law of England and Wales. We will always communicate with you using the English language.

Forester Life is required to prepare and publish a Solvency and Financial Condition Report each year under the Solvency II regulations. You may view our Solvency and Financial Condition Report on our website at foresters.com/SFCR

At Foresters Financial we provide products, advice and service that embrace financial sense and simplicity. If there is anything in this brochure you don't understand, or you have special needs, please let us know.

This brochure is issued by Forester Life Limited, Foresters House, 2 Cromwell Avenue, Bromley BR2 9BF. Information is based on our current understanding of legislation and tax practice as at March 2021, which may change in the future.





Forester Life offers a range of financial solutions in tune with today's needs for flexible terms, low charges and clear and simple conditions. Our products have been designed to cater for your financial security with a range of options as your circumstances change.

### Have you used your ISA allowance?

If not, our ISA could be suitable. Whether you are saving for a rainy day or something more exciting, if you are over 18 and a UK resident for tax purposes, our ISA could be a great way for you to build up a lump sum for the future.

### Want to add more than the ISA limit?

Our Savings & Investment Plan could be suitable. Your money is held in a fund with the same investment philosophy as our ISA but has no limit to the amount you would like to invest.

### Do you have any other children?

We look after the savings needs of over 1 million children in the UK. Help them take their first footsteps into adult life by saving for their future with us from as little as £10 a month.

### Protecting the ones you love?

Although protection may sometimes not be given a lot of thought because it can be a sensitive subject, it can make you think about how your family would cope financially if you were unable to work or should the worst happen. We offer Lifestyle and Mortgage Protection Plans for you to choose from to suit your needs and provide you with peace of mind.

### Saving for retirement?

Our Pension Plan gives the opportunity to save in a tax-efficient way for retirement, in addition to your state pension. So, you should consider contributing to a personal pension if you are self-employed or you have no earnings but can afford to save for your retirement.

Customer Services Forester Life Foresters House 2 Cromwell Avenue Bromley BR2 9BF T 0333 600 0333 8:30am to 5:00pm weekdays Calls are charged at local rates E service@foresters.co.uk foresters.com

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Registered Office:

Forester Life Limited, Foresters House, 2 Cromwell Avenue, Bromley BR2 9BF

T 0333 600 0333 E service@foresters.co.uk

foresters.com

