

Short Breaks Service Statement

Barking and Dagenham Council has a responsibility to provide a range of Short Breaks Services designed to assist individuals who provide care for children with disabilities to enable them to continue to do so, or to do so more effectively by giving them breaks from their caring role.

This statement provides information about this responsibility and will be reviewed annually on 1st April.

Our Vision

Barking and Dagenham Council is committed to working with its communities and partners to improve the local quality of life and to make the Borough a better place to live work and visit.

We are committed to supporting children and young people with disabilities and are determined to provide the right support to them and their families.

We will promote the safety and well being of children and young people with disabilities, ensuring they can fully participate in family and community life, enjoy themselves with friends and make meaningful decisions about their own lives.

We will continue to work closely with families and key professionals to help children and young people with disabilities to enjoy opportunities to reach their potential and fulfil their ambitions.

We will offer locally based, culturally appropriate services to meet the needs of the growing communities, and provide support to organisations delivering Short Break Services.

We will be clear and equitable, gaining an understanding of individual circumstances where possible and allocating services based on identified and assessed needs.

We are committed to making the best use of the resources available and ensuring that services are:

- Advertised, with clear information about what is available;
- Positive, enjoyable and appropriate;

- Readily accessible; that is we provide universal services that meet the needs of all disabled children;
- Easy to access; that they are in locations that are not hard to get to and have eligibility criteria that are easily understood;
- Person-centred; that is aimed at meeting the needs of the individual; and
- Regular and reliable; that is that they happen at the times that people want them to.

What are Short Break Services?

Short Breaks Services have been defined as services that give:

- Children and young people with disabilities enjoyable experiences both with and away from their primary carers, thereby contributing to their personal and social development and reducing social isolation.
- Parents and families a necessary and valuable break from caring responsibilities.

Short Breaks Services can include day-time or overnight care in the homes of children with disabilities or elsewhere, educational or leisure activities outside their homes, or services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays.

The Council recognises that short breaks can benefit children and young people with disabilities, their parents or carers and other family members specifically siblings.

Benefits for Children and Young People

Short Breaks Services can present opportunities for children and young people with disabilities to be able to experience new activities, establish and build friendships and pursue their aspirational goals which they may not otherwise have been able to do

Short Breaks Services can also assist children and young people with disabilities to develop life skills, develop independence, confidence, socialisation skills and access leisure and recreational activities as part of a local community.

Benefits for Parents and Carers

Studies have shown that for some parent/carers who have a child with disabilities, the provision of short breaks simply means the difference between being able to cope, or not.

Short Break Services allow parents and carers opportunities to carry out everyday activities, attend to personal health and wellbeing, pursue employment or training, maintain relationships and develop support networks.

This often results in families being better able to cope, and to be able to continue to provide care for both their children with disabilities and other children they may have.

Benefits for Siblings

Siblings of a child with disabilities may share concerns their parents have, including feelings of isolation, a need for information, guilt, and concerns about the future. Their issues may also include resentment, peer issues, embarrassment and pressure to achieve. Many siblings of children with disabilities can become young carers which can create additional pressures.

Spending undivided time with their parents or carers as part of a Short Breaks Service can allow siblings the opportunity to enjoy being themselves, assist in alleviating anxiety, reduce isolation and enable them to be better able to cope with any difficulties they may face.

Who are Short Breaks Services for?

Families living in LBBDD who have a child or children with a disability aged between 0 – 17 years (Up to their 18th birthday) are potentially eligible for Short Breaks Services.

The Equality Act 2010 defines disability as ***‘either a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities’.***

This may include a physical or learning disability, a hearing or visual impairment.

It includes children and young people with Autism and Asperger’s Syndrome and children

who may have challenging behaviour as a result of a learning disability. In instances where an assessment or CAF has been completed to conclude that a child or young person’s disability does not have a long term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities, the type of short break offered may be limited to our **universal offer**.

It also includes children who have complex needs, who require palliative care, or who have a life limiting or a life-threatening condition.

It may also include children and young people who have not yet been diagnosed but are undergoing medical tests. An assessment or CAF will be completed to determine the needs of the child. These may include children accessing Portage services.

The Short Breaks Regulations

The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2011 (here referred to as the Short Breaks Regulations) provides further detail to local authorities as to how they must perform their duty under the Children Act 1989. This includes, providing breaks for parent/carers with children and young people with disabilities, to support them to continue to care for their children and to allow them to do so more effectively.

In summary, the Short Breaks Regulations requires local authorities to do three things:

- To ensure that, when making Short Break provision, they have regard to the needs of different types of carers, not just those who would be unable to continue to provide care without a break;
- To provide a range of breaks, as appropriate, during the day, night, at weekends and during the school holidays;
- To provide parents with a Short Breaks Services Statement detailing the range of available breaks and any eligibility criteria attached to them;

The Short Break Regulations also direct that local authorities must keep their Short Breaks Services Statement under review and, where appropriate, revise the statement ensuring they show regard to the views of carers in their area.

Short Breaks Services: Local Offer

Universal offer:

The Heathway Centre

The Heathway Centre is a purpose built, fully inclusive Resource Centre for families with children & young people with a disability or additional need. It is based at 512a Heathway, Dagenham, RM10 7SJ. The centre operates within the borough Children Centre Framework.

The Heathway Centre delivers a varied programme of services and activities for children with disabilities, their siblings, parents and carers providing both universal and targeted support. Activities are developed in consultation with children, young people and their families. The centre works closely with providers in the borough who also support children with disabilities and their families offering satellite services from the centre.

The centre also provides a base for parents and carers, voluntary sector groups and stakeholders for children with disabilities to meet.

The centre provides resources that can support families, including offering a FREE MAX card for parent/carers who agree for their child to be placed on the borough's 'Children & Young People with Additional Needs List'. The MAX card offers concessions on over 800 national attractions. Parent/carers can also register for a 'carers card' which provides some concessions locally and also serves as identification for the child to prove they have a disability.

The centre is open seven days a week including evenings and weekends. Office hours are Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm.

Please visit:

www.lbbd.gov.uk/theheathwaycentre or
contact the centre on 020 8227 5500 for more information.

Portage and Inclusion

The Portage Service is a pre-school home visiting service for disabled children and those with additional needs from birth to three years and their families. The service provides regular visits to the child's home by a trained Portage practitioner. The Portage practitioner works closely with the child's parent/carer to assess

what the child can do and agree which skills to teach the child together. Children learn through play and having fun.

To be eligible for Portage home visits a child must meet the following conditions:

- Live in Barking and Dagenham
- Be under three years old
- Must not be attending nursery full time
- Must have a significant delay in two or more areas of development or a condition/diagnosis that means such delay is likely
- Parents/carers must want to be involved with the Portage Service.

Your child can be referred by any professional or you can contact us for more information 020 8724 8550.

Makaton

Makaton Sign Language is a system used by children and adults with communication and learning difficulties to aid communication. Makaton is widely used in the Borough and recommended by speech and language therapists to support communication development.

Training for parents of children up to five years of age is provided through the Portage Service and cost £25 per person. Call 020 8724 8550 to put your name on the waiting list and you will be contacted as soon as a place is available.

Early Years Deaf Service

The Early Years Deaf Service supports children aged 0-5 years old, living in Barking and Dagenham, who have been diagnosed as having a hearing loss.

The service works with parent/carers at home to help the child in all areas of learning and development, but especially in acquiring speaking and listening skills.

Support is also available for visits to audiology and with helping the child to consistently use their hearing aids or implant.

Children's Services including Children's Centres

Children's Service's offer:

- Parenting programmes offer strategies and insight into how to manage children and young peoples behaviour positively. Parenting programmes are planned on a termly basis throughout the borough, according to local need. These include:
 - Incredible Years
 - Incredible Years – adapted for parent/carers with children and young people with a disability
 - Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities
 - Oxford Brookes Strengthening Families 10-14 (UK)
 - Speakeasy
 - Life Choices

Children's Centre provides:

- Advice about returning to work including accessing support from Job Centre Plus and volunteering opportunities
- Speech and language advice sessions for children who may experience difficulties in speech, language and communication;
- Information about registered childminders who have been specifically trained to look after disabled children. Contact the Family Information Service for the list of childminders
- Financial advice and guidance on maximising income

- Play and communication services which can help develop your child's early communication skills.
- A range of health services including ante-natal appointments, child health clinics, oral health advice, healthy eating and physical activity sessions, plus support, advice and signposting to other health services.

In addition the following is available:

- Adult learning classes including ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes are provided at a number of children's centres throughout the borough;

- Access to sensory rooms at several children's centres.

Physical Activity & Healthy Lifestyles

The Physical Activity & Healthy Lifestyles Team in Barking & Dagenham offer a range of activities for disabled children from After School Clubs, Junior Gym, Sports sessions including athletics and trampolining.

Please click here:

<http://www.gettingactive.co.uk/activities/healthy-lifestyles>

for more information. Days and times are subject to change and should be checked prior.

Short Break Caravan

Families have the opportunity to have a short break at one of our Caravans at Naze Marine Holiday Park in Essex.

Naze Marine Holiday Park is a great location for those who enjoy a traditional seaside destination. The Park is a short stroll to the sandy beach and pier at Walton-on-the-Naze, a lovely seaside town.

The children can take advantage of the accessible indoor pool and activities after a day on the beach, then enjoy the fun evening entertainment and shows.

This must be booked through the Heathway Centre and is subject to availability.

Short Break Foster Carers

Short Break Foster Carers are assessed foster carers who choose to care for the same child with a disability regularly, offering them the same room in the carers' own home each time they stay.

The carers work to ensure that a good relationship between the child, the birth family and themselves develops, linking with the family so that the child's needs are well known and met.

Each time your child stays with the matched carer we aim for them to have a rewarding and fun time. We will have checked the carer can meet your young person's needs, and ensure that they are well looked after. You will get to know what your child has done during their time away, and can contact your child during the short break.

If you'd like to find out more you can contact the Children with Disabilities Team on 0300 300 1755 or the Short Break Worker on 020 8227 5988.

Participation and Feedback

Just Say Parents Forum

The Just Say Parents Forum a borough wide parent/carer forum in Barking and Dagenham. It is for parents and carers of disabled children and young people, and those with SEN. The Forum supports you to have a say in deciding how services are provided, to make sure that resources are directed to the services parents and families value.

The aim is to work towards improving the support, advice and confidence of parents in the borough and to make recommendations to the Council and its partner agencies on what is needed to improve children's well-being. The Forum is part of the National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF).

If you would like to become a member of the forum or would like further information, please contact the chair of the Forum.

Chair, Just Say Parents Forum

Email: justsaybdforum@gmail.com

Trinity School Parents' Support Group

The Trinity School Parents Support group is available to parents and carers who have a child at Trinity School.

Trinity School

Heathway, Dagenham, Essex RM10 7SJ

Tel: 020 8270 1601

Email: office@trinity.bardaglea.org.uk

The Disabled Young Peoples' Parliament

The Disabled Young Peoples' Parliament, our youth forum, is a key feature of the Barking & Dagenham Progress Project as it involves young people at every level. Developed in September 2007, the Forum currently has over 25 registered members, who meet monthly to discuss issues that are relevant to their lives, representing other young people attending specialist youth clubs in the borough.

The Forum is truly inclusive, and finds innovative ways for disabled young people to express themselves and voice their opinions. They aim to be a model of good practice in that the opinions of the young people and their development are paramount.

The Forum members meet monthly, as well as meeting for various member-led activities throughout the month.

For further information, contact:

Matt Dyde

Participation Officer

Barking and Dagenham Progress Project

Tel: 0208 517 5107

Email: forum@bdpp.org.uk

Assessment of Needs

Not all children and families will need the same level of support, or Short Breaks Services. Some will need more than others because of the nature of their child's disability, or the effect it has on normal day-to-day activities.

This is why we may need to assess your child and family's needs, to be able to provide the correct type of Short Breaks Services at the right time.

Assessments can be brief depending on the nature of the circumstances. In some cases, it may be easy to decide the nature of services required. In others it may be more difficult, in which case we may have to complete either a Child in Need (CIN) Initial or Core Assessment.

Our aim is that the level of assessment is proportionate to the level of need of the family and to ensure that the welfare of the child is safeguarded.

The Children's Act 1989 defines a child with a disability as a Child in Need (CIN).² As such local authorities have a responsibility under the legal framework to assess the impact of any disability on family life by considering:

- The child's developmental needs
- The parents' parenting capacity
- Family and environmental factors

Local authorities also have a duty to assess the needs of carers taking account of their wishes to

undertake work, education, training or leisure activities. Assessments typically consist of an analysis of need, judgement and decision making and may be one or more of the following:

- Self-Assessment
- Carers Assessment
- Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
- Child in Need (CIN) Initial Assessment
- Child in Need (CIN) Core Assessment

There may be occasions when situations arise that have a significant effect on your immediate ability to provide care for your child with a disability. In these circumstances please contact the Social Care Teams who will assess the need for support.

How do I Arrange an Assessment?

Families are legally entitled to request a formal assessment of their individual circumstances and this assessment should precede any decisions made regarding allocation of services.

Common Assessment Framework (CAF) Assessments can be completed by a Lead Professional from one of the following:

- Health Centres, School Nurses and Primary Care Trust;
- Nurseries, Pre-Schools/Day Nurseries, Lower, Middle and Upper Schools and Colleges;
- Voluntary Sector Organisations;
- Children's Centres
- Intensive Family Support Service;

Child in Need (CIN) and Carer Assessments can be arranged by Social Care Teams who can be contacted by telephoning 020 8227 3811.

What Happens Next?

Once a Lead Professional or Social Care Worker has been identified they will arrange to conduct a formal assessment of your needs and refer you to the appropriate services.

Some referrals will be made to Resource Allocation Panels who will use the assessment to identify a tailored package of Short Breaks Services which can meet your individual needs.

Further information detailing these processes can be found at the end of this Short Breaks Statement.

Self Referrals

In some circumstances parents or carers may wish to complete a self-referral without an assessment of need being conducted. This may be relevant in situations where a particular one-off or discrete service is required, and parents or carers wish to request funding towards this. Self-referrals can be completed by families who do not have a Family Support Worker from either The Heathway Centre or Community Solutions, do not have a CAF open and those who do not have a social worker in place.

In this scenario, a self-referral form should be completed and submitted to the Short Breaks team using the dedicated Short Breaks e-mail account below.

Upon receipt of a self-referral the submission will be considered at a Resource Allocation Panel. In some circumstances the panel may decide that they require further information that may take the form of a more formal assessment. In these instances, the parent or carer submitting the referral will be contacted and advised of the next steps.

E-Mail: ChildrensRespiteRequests@lbbd.gov.uk

Right to Appeal

Families and individuals have a right to appeal the assessment of their needs. This can be discussed with the Lead Professional or Social Worker who has undertaken the assessment.

Alternatively please contact the Family Information Service using the information in the 'Useful Contacts' section of this document.

Direct Payments and Individual Budgets

Direct payments are local council payments for children and young people who have had a formal assessment of need completed. They can be used to access a Short Break Service, or as an alternative to purchase services directly from a provider or a carer.

This option will be provided with support to assist you in getting started, and there is no obligation on you to accept this option.

If you do not have an allocated Social Worker you can contact the Disabled Children's Team, who can give you more information. To contact the Disabled Children's Team please call: 0300 300 1755

Useful Contacts

Family Information Service

A Directory of all providers operating within Barking and Dagenham providing Short Breaks Services can be accessed through the Family Information Service website.

Telephone: 020 8227 5395

E-Mail: fis@lbbd.gov.uk

Website:

<https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/residents/children-young-people-and-families/family-information-service/overview/>

Disabled Children's Team

The team provides a service for children with disabilities and their families and carers.

Telephone: 0300 300 1755

The Heathway Centre

The Heathway Centre delivers services for children with disabilities and additional needs. The building has been designed to be fully inclusive and includes a full track and hoist system, a wet room, a hearing loop and adjustable height cooker.

Address: 512a The Heathway, Dagenham,
RM10 7SJ

Telephone: 020 8227 5500

Children with Additional Needs Register

All local authorities are required by the Children Act 1986 to maintain a register of disabled children. The register is an electronic database of children and young people in the Borough who have a disability. These allow the local authority to identify the types of disability and needs within the borough and ensure resources are placed appropriately. Registration is not compulsory.

If you would like to register on the database, you can complete this online at <https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/residents/children-young-people-and-families/local-offer/care-and-family-support/children-young-people-with-additional-needs-list> or Register for a MAX card at The Heathway Centre. For more enquiries, please call the number below.

Telephone: 020 8227 5500

Portage and Inclusion

The Portage and Inclusion Service provides educational support through home visits to children aged from 0 – 3 years with additional needs and disabilities.

Telephone: 020 8724 8550

Information, Advice and Support Service (IASS)

The Information, Advice and Support Service provides confidential and impartial support to parents of children with special educational needs.

Telephone: 020 8593 4422

Children's Social Care Assessment Service

Address: Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
(MASH) & Assessment Team
Roycroft House
15 Linton Road
Barking
IG11 8HE

Telephone: 020 8227 3811

E-mail: childrens@lbbd.gov.uk

Short Breaks E-Mail Account

For general queries regarding Short Break services you may also use the dedicated Short Breaks e-mail account:

E-mail: ShortBreaks@lbbd.gov.uk

Local Providers

DABD

Telephone: 020 8215 9630

Carers of Barking and Dagenham

Telephone: 020 8593 4422

Sycamore Trust

Telephone: 020 8220 0090

Local Providers

A Directory of all providers operating within Barking and Dagenham providing Short Breaks Services can be accessed through the Family Information Service website.

Telephone: 020 8227 5395

E-Mail: fis@lbbd.gov.uk

Website:

<https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/residents/children-young-people-and-families/family-information-service/overview/>

Children's Centres

Abbey

North Street, Barking, IG11 8LA

Telephone: 020 8724 1262

abbeychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk

Becontree

Becontree Primary School, Stevens Road, Dagenham, RM8 2QR

Telephone: 020 8724 1830

becontreechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk

Eastbury

Blake Avenue, Barking, IG11 9SQ

Telephone: 020 8724 1950

eastburychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk

Gascoigne

Gascoigne Community Centre, 140 St Anns, Barking, IG11 7AD

Telephone: 020 8724 1147

gascoignechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk

Leys

215 Wellington Drive, Dagenham, RM10 9X

Telephone: 020 8724 1983

leyschildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk

Sue Bramley

Bastable Avenue, Barking, IG11 0LG

Telephone: 020 8724 1020

suebramleychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk

Marks Gate

119 Rose Lane, Romford, RM6 5NR

Telephone: 020 8270 6091

marksgatechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk

William Bellamy

Frizlands Lane, Dagenham, RM10 7HX

Telephone: 020 8724 1924

williambellamychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk

Commissioned Services

Barnados

Little Stars for children 0-3 year olds

Location: Heathway Centre 512a Heathway, Dagenham, RM10 7SJ

Barnados provide two daytime sessions a week for disabled children aged 0-3 years of age, including those children with complex needs and challenging behaviour.

- Tuesdays - 10.00 to 13.00
- Wednesdays - 10.00 to 13.00

The sessions will provide children with the opportunity to participate in a range of fun and stimulating activities including messy play, cooking, crafts, sensory play, games, role play, story-telling and outdoor play. The activities will support the development of social skills, self-help skills and provide support towards independence. They encourage exploratory play, active learning and creative thinking which

will help to prepare the children for school readiness and support the transition to nursery/school.

The service will work closely with the Portage team from the point of referral to ensure that each child has individual development targets appropriate to their needs.

Sycamore Trust

Youth Club 8-12 years

Location: Heathway Centre 512a Heathway, Dagenham, RM10 7SJ

When: Mondays 6-8pm

The service is specifically designed following consultation with families at the B&D Parents Conference and other families within the Borough, to support young people aged 8-18 with autism and their families living in Barking and Dagenham. The activity programme is selected after engaging with young people around their personal goals and aspirations and looks at removing the barriers which may prevent them from accessing mainstream and universal services, including sports, libraries, parks and other local opportunities. The project is accessible and the provider uses various methods of communication to support young people with ASD. Sycamore Trust UK provide early interventions for young people to explore issues that are affecting their social situations including developing and maintaining friendships and other areas as they learn to cope with their autism and the challenges that may arise.

The clubs also offer a range of fun social activities from arts & craft and sensory activities to physical activities, IT skills and group participation. The club has been designed to improve confidence particularly in social situations and assists young people with Autism in Barking and Dagenham to improve their communication skills, make friends and join in new activities.

Sycamore Trust

Youth Club 12-18 year olds

Location: Sycamore Trust Hall, Woodward Road, Dagenham and in the community.

When: Tuesday 6.30pm to 8.30pm

The service is specifically designed to support young people aged 12 to 18 with Autism and their families living in Barking and Dagenham. The project is 'User Led' and the activity programme is selected after engaging with young people around their personal goals and aspirations and looks at removing the barriers which may prevent them from accessing mainstream and universal services, including sports, libraries, parks and other local opportunities. The project is accessible and Sycamore Trust U.K. use various methods of communication to support young people with ASD.

The club offers a range of fun social activities from arts & craft, IT skills, sensory activities and physical activities, to independent living skills such as shopping, cooking, handling money, travel training and trips out including visits to the cinema and bowling. The clubs are designed to improve confidence particularly in social situations and assist young people with ASD living in Barking and Dagenham to improve their communication skills, make friends and join in and access new activities and where possible move on to local mainstream and universal services.

Sycamore Trust

18-25 club

Location: Sycamore Trust Hall, Woodward Road, Dagenham and in the community.

When: 2nd and 4th Friday of the month (Please contact for details).

This social club is for people with LD/ASD living in Barking and Dagenham to improve social skills and make new friends. It runs every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. This group is for adults between 18-25 years.

The social support is provided in a warm and friendly atmosphere with caring staff and volunteers who are happy to support individuals. The group take part in various activities, such as: crafts, games, listening to music, film nights and using IT equipment or simply just to have a chat with friends. The evening group also makes regular visits out into the community to participate in local activities, for example; bowling, eating out and theatre trips.

Funky Willows

Saturday Play Scheme – (Aged 8-13)

Location: Heathway Centre 512a Heathway, Dagenham, RM10 7SJ

When: Saturdays 12.30 – 5.30pm

The service is delivered on Saturdays 39 weeks each year for five hours per session.

Funky Willows provision is designed to develop independency away from the family home, enhance social skills and increase social inclusivity. All of the Funky Willows provision is designed for the children and young adults to try new experiences by offering age-appropriate activities that are both enjoyable and stimulating. The provision currently extends young people's horizons and presents them with achievable challenges.

The Saturday provision is delivered primarily from the Heathway Centre with other activities taking place in a variety of different locations within the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and surrounding boroughs:

- Bowling
- Cinema
- Movie days
- Karaoke
- Arts & Crafts
- 5-a-side Football sessions
- Music Therapy
- Drama
- Pottery
- Multi sports
- Dance

All referrals must be made through the council and places will be offered upon successful application.

Disablement Association of Barking and Dagenham - DABD

Kids Patch Club – Saturday Provision for Children aged 6 and over

Location: Leys Children Centre, Dagenham, and/or Collier Row Children's Centre, Collier Row

When: 9am - 3pm

DABD is able to provide services for up to 15 Children & Young People on a 2-1, 1-2-1 or 1-2 bases.

DABD produce an activity planner for the year to show which activities will be taking place at venues. This includes activities offsite; visits to parks, bowling etc

They offer age related structured activity plans for each age group and allocate a suitable support worker to each child. Suitability matching process is carried out in the form of an assessment.

All activities are outcome based and monitored each week. Each child will have their own individualised detailed Growth Patch Planner with up to date detailed information, a recent picture, plus a behavioural risk assessment, medication protocol, manual handling information and targeted timescales of achievement. This is updated after each session. Copies can also be made available for parents/carers.

The activities are designed to make the child happy and help to lead a more fulfilled life by enhancing life skills. Activities are also designed to boost confidence of attendees by learning how to interact with other children and adults.

The young people using the service will be assessed in co-operation with their parent/carers so that DABD have a comprehensive understanding of the needs of the young person including any health, medication or behavioural needs that may require additional support. The young person always participates in the assessment as far as they are able and DABD actively seek their views in a communication format they can access.

Each child will have their own individualise detailed Growth Patch Planner with up to date detailed information, a recent picture, plus a behavioural risk assessment, medication protocol, manual handling information and targeted timescales of achievement. This is updated after each session. Copies can also be made available for parents/carers.

The activities the attendees will be able to access are:

ONSITE: Arts & Crafts including messy arts, sensory arts, computer designed art, textile design & change, expressive art. Sports - football, cricket, boccia, karate, badminton, parachute games, team games and multi – sports activities. Health & Self Development including - healthy eating, diet, cooking, shopping, hygiene, make up, beauty, hair care and exploring new things. Play choices - creative play, soft play, role play, sensory room, imaginative play, group play, accessible cycling, water play, music play, various board and card games and Music - making, listening and discovery, DJ workshops, computer music making, mixing and performing. Fun & Fitness - including various dance styles, dance and fitness on the Wii, drama and group activities. Nature walks - accessing parks, bouncy castles and circus skills. Environmental development; sowing, growing, recycling and using what you grow.

OFFSITE: Children and Young People will be able to access the following for part day activities: Swimming, Cinema, Nature reserves, Parks and Leisure Centres, Drama Workshops, Various Shopping complexes, Various Museums and places of historical interest, various adventure and activities centres.

During their day the young people will take part in various activities described above. Near the end of their day the children/young people will do an evaluation in the form of “how was your day” which will be presented in various ways. Evaluations will take place after each session/activity/event, with the children/young people responses being gathered in a variety of formats such as: drawing of what they have done, video logs, colouring sheets, questionnaires and picture selections. The children/young people will decide which format they use for feedback as well as abilities levels and participation wishes of the children/young people.

Short Breaks Eligibility Criteria

This part of our Short Breaks Services Statement is intended to assist professionals in the allocation of Short Breaks Services to children and young people with disabilities, their parents or carers and other family members specifically siblings.

It is also to provide information about Barking and Dagenham Council’s Short Break Services processes and eligibility criteria to children and young people with disabilities and their families.

The Resource Allocation System Guidance and Short Breaks Eligibility Criteria are to be used in conjunction with a formal assessment of need such as a Common Assessment Framework (CAF); Children in Need (CIN) Initial and, or Core Assessment and a Carers Assessment.

These assessments are usually carried out by Lead Professionals in the case of CAF Assessments, or Social Workers in the case of Children in Need Assessments and Carers Assessments. Resources will be allocated by consideration of any submitted formal assessments and additional evidence.

This guidance uses descriptors to quantify the effect a disability has on the ability of children and young people, their parents or carers and siblings to carry out normal day to day activities.

Careful consideration should be given as to the individual circumstances for each case and the impact on the health and wellbeing of parents or carers and siblings this may have as it will strongly influence the determination of need.

As such the terminology used within this guidance is subjective to allow for discretion in determining levels of need and in making decisions on the basis of these needs.

Descriptors and examples should be used as general indicators only and decisions regarding the level of need and allocation of resources should reflect this. The aim should always be:

- To provide the most appropriate resources to assist individuals who provide care for children with disabilities to enable them to continue to do so, or to do so more effectively by giving them breaks from caring; and

- To present opportunities for children and young people with disabilities to be able to experience new activities, establish and build friendships and pursue their goals.

Considerations

The information and examples given in the Resource Allocation System Guidance and Short Breaks Services Eligibility Criteria are indicators only; normal day-to-day activities will be different for each child and family and may be affected by factors such as age, culture or religion.

Personal care means things like going to the toilet, having a wash, getting dressed or teeth cleaning. For babies it will be things like nappy changing.

Family's needs are assessed on the criteria set out in Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and Their Families. This looks at three areas including:

- The child's developmental needs;
- The parents' parenting capacity;
- Family and environmental factors

Circumstances that may be encountered within these areas because of a disability are highlighted in the considerations section for each assessed area.

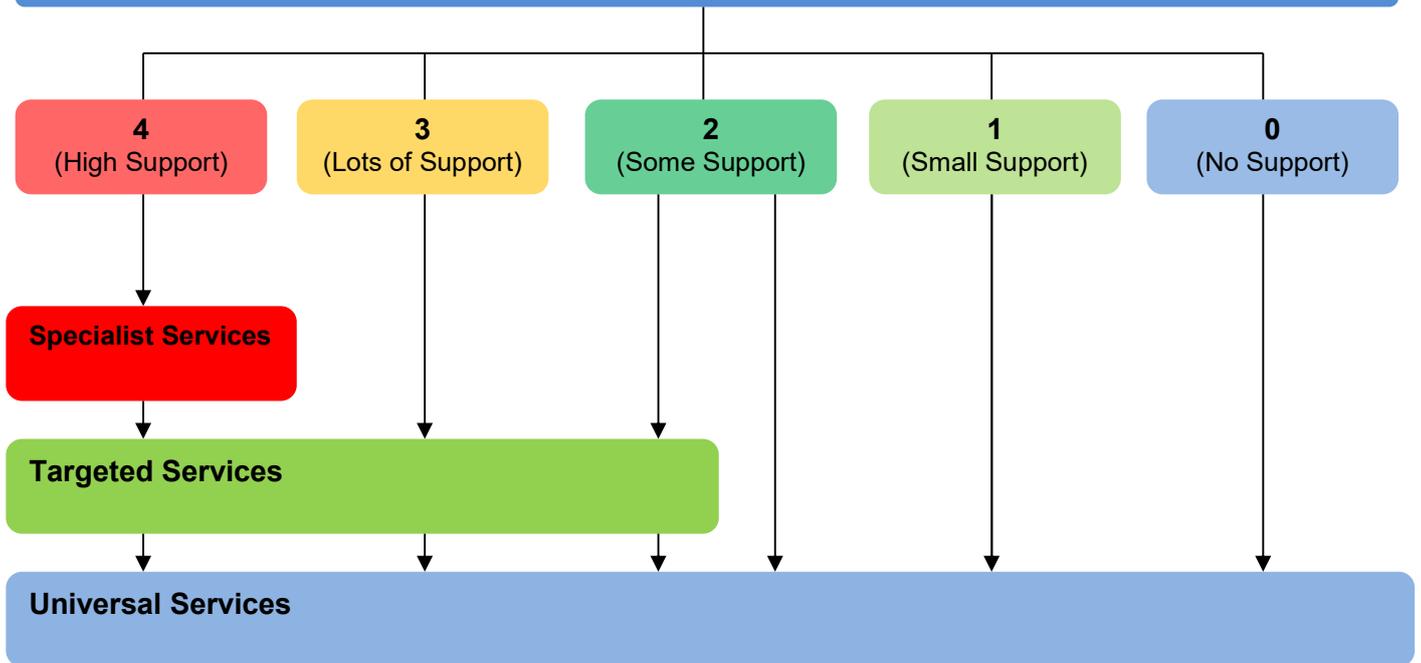
If you have any questions about the Short Breaks Services Statement, Pathways, Resource Allocation Guidance or Eligibility Criteria please contact our Short Breaks Commissioning Manager on 0208 227 3188 to discuss these matters further.

Short Breaks Services – Resource Allocation Guidance

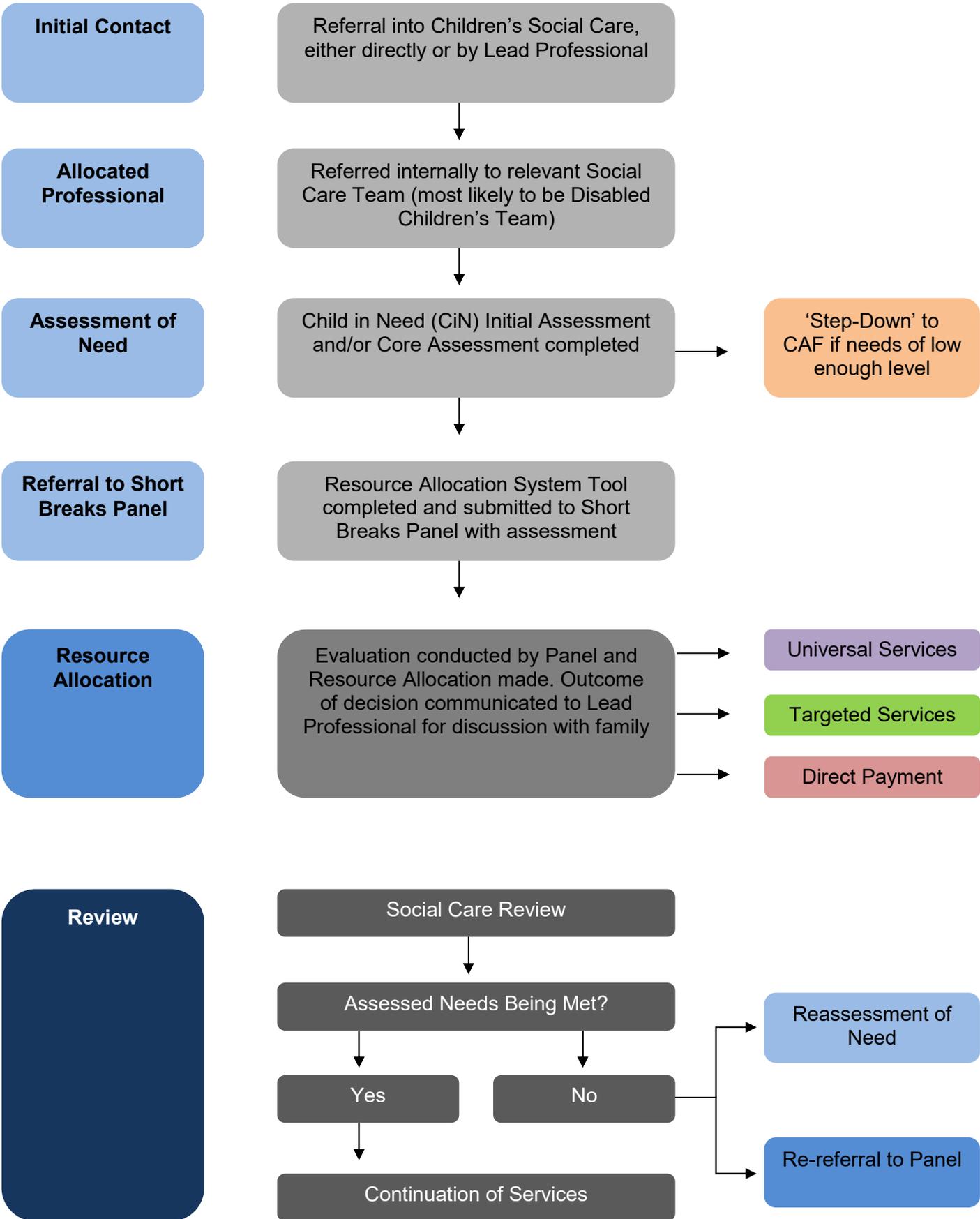
Assessment of Need

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Output of Resource Allocation System (RAS) Tool



Short Breaks Services – Social Care Pathway



Short Breaks Services – Lead Professional Pathway

