

# HARINGEY SHORT BREAKS STATEMENT 2023-2025



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# 1. FOREWORD AND STATEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR BRABAZON

I am delighted to introduce our Short Breaks statement which provides comprehensive information for families living in Haringey who care for a child or young person aged up to 18 years with a disability. The statement sets out the purpose of Short Breaks, the current range of Short Breaks available in Haringey, and how to access them. Local authorities are required to publish their Short Breaks Services Statement, so families know what support is available; the eligibility criteria and how the range of short breaks are designed to meet the needs of local families with disabled children.

Our vision and aspirations for children with special educational needs and / or disabilities in Haringey is the same as for all children and young people – for them to achieve well in their education, to be cared for in safe and supportive families, participate and be involved in their communities and lead happy, safe, and fulfilled lives.

Short Breaks contribute to this, providing disabled children and young people with an opportunity to spend time away from their parents, relaxing and having fun with their peers. Examples of short breaks include holiday playschemes, family fun days, group activities and clubs, and services in the home.

These also provide families with a 'break' from their caring responsibilities, giving parents and carers a chance to unwind, rest, spend time with their other children, and giving brothers and sisters an opportunity to enjoy family time too. Parents and carers may use their break time to enjoy a leisure activity or if they are studying, to support their studies.

Who is responsible?

The Lead Officer is the Assistant Director of Children's Safeguarding & Social Care.

As part of the Assistant Director's role in leading Short Breaks Haringey, parents and carers are invited to join the Parent and Carer Forum, known in Haringey as SEND Power where ideas and proposed policies can be shared. This forum works closely with the Council to coproduce services for children and young people with disabilities. This reflects the strong commitment from Children's Services, partner agencies, children, young people and their families to work together, sharing their expert knowledge and experience to keep Short Break services and the Short Breaks Statement under constant review.

It was through this strong partnership with parents and carers that our Short Breaks Statement was developed. We hope the range and diversity of activities in the statement reflect the wishes and needs identified through this collaborative process.

It is really encouraging that feedback from children and young people themselves tells us that the range of short break activities is very significantly meeting their needs. They have told us they would recommend the short breaks programme as this contributes to their wider experience, and most importantly, to making and maintaining friendships.

We will continue to develop and build on the offer already in place to ensure we can support as many children, young people and their families, as possible, to use and benefit from this service.

Councillor Zena Brabazon  
Cabinet Member, Children, Schools, and Families  
Haringey Council

## 2. INTRODUCTION

This document provides information about the range of Short Break services available to families of children and young people with a Special Educational Need and/or Disability (SEND) living in Haringey aged 0 - 18 years.

Our Short Breaks Statement should be read in conjunction with our [Haringey SEND Strategy 2022-2025](#), which emphasises supporting children and families at the earliest opportunity to access the services and interventions they need to thrive. We are equally dedicated to delivering a Short Breaks offer to children and families that allows for flexibility, choice and access to services that meet their needs.

We recognise that Short Breaks provide essential support for parents and carers of children with SEND and should be delivered as part of a broader package of family support services as outlined in our [Local Offer](#).

## 3. SHORT BREAK?

### 3.1 WHAT IS A SHORT BREAK?

- Short breaks are sometimes also known as respite
- Short breaks provide opportunities for children and young people with special needs to spend time away from their primary carers
- Short breaks can take place during the day, evening, overnight, at weekends or during the school holidays
- Short breaks activities might happen in a child's own home, the home of an approved carer, a residential or community setting

The term 'Short Breaks' describes services that help parents and carers to provide care more effectively for their child with SEND by providing them regular breaks so that:

- They can meet the needs of other children in the family;
- They can study or take part in leisure activities themselves; or
- Carry out day to day household tasks.

Short Breaks give children and young people with SEND, a chance to enjoy fun social, leisure or new activities, build confidence and develop vital skills with or without their parent or carer present.

Short Breaks are activities offered during the daytime, evening, overnight and weekend for a child or young person with SEND and can range from a few hours to overnight breaks. They can take place in the child's home, the home of an approved carer, in a registered home or in a community setting such as a youth club or sports activity.

Short Breaks can be described in the following three categories; Universal, Targeted and Specialist.



## DEFINITIONS AND LANGUAGE

The terms "respite" and "short breaks" are often used interchangeably, over the years there has been a shift in language towards short breaks as it tends to be more reflective of the mutual benefit of the support provided. In either case our aim is to make sure that the service provided meets both the needs of the child or young person receiving care and support, and also the needs of the parent carer. It should be a positive experience for the whole family.

**Respite** refers to a service giving parents and carers a break, by providing short-term care for the child or young person with care needs in their own home or in a residential setting. It can mean a few hours during the day or evening, 'night sitting', or a longer-term break. It can also benefit the child or young person by giving them the chance to try new activities and meet other children and new people.

**Short breaks** is when a child or young person with care and support needs spends regular short periods of time away from their parent carer, giving them the opportunity to be involved in something different; and at the same time gives the parent and carer a break. These breaks may take place in the child's or young person's own home, in the home of an approved carer, after school club. The break might last a few hours, an activity one afternoon, a weekend, or anything in between.

## 3.2 WHO ARE SHORT BREAKS FOR?

Short Breaks in Haringey are available to children and young people who:

- Have a Special Educational Need and/or Disability.
- Are aged 0 to 18 years old; and
- Reside in Haringey.

Eligibility decisions are based on individual needs including to what extent a child or young person's disability or impairment affects their lives and those who live with and care for them.

### 3.3 SHORT BREAKS AND INFORMATION LOCAL AUTHORITIES MUST MAKE AVAILABLE

The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations came into effect on 1 April 2011 and established in law the duty for each Local Authority to provide a range of Short Breaks for families with disabled children and young people from birth up to their 18th birthday.

As part of the duty, each Local Authority must produce a Short Breaks Statement so that parents and carers understand the range of Short Breaks available, how to access the range of Short Breaks available; and how Short Breaks have been designed to meet local needs.

## 4. WHAT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TELL US ABOUT THE SHORT BREAKS IN HARINGEY



Our Short Breaks offer has been informed by consultation with children and families:

- We work with families and SEND Power in Haringey, our Parent Carer forum to better understand local needs and gaps in service.
- We involve families in making decisions about service development and priorities.
- We are informed of the services that families need through feedback on the Haringey Local Offer.

Our SEND Power in Haringey and Sendiass hosted two workshops to review Haringey's current Short Breaks offer, discussed how it was working, and suggested possible improvements.

Feedback we have received includes:

- 'Wholeheartedly recommended the short break program', emphasizing its profound impact.
- 'Staff have extensive knowledge in managing unique requirements'.
- 'An excellent service'.

However, some parents and carers told us:

- They found it difficult to find and access Short Breaks, social activities for their children and respite provision within the area.
- For those who are older there was limited Short Break availability in the Summer Holidays.

Ongoing consultation and co-production with children and families tell us they want us to consider the following when planning and commissioning Short Breaks:

- ✓ Age and ability-appropriate activities/ support.
- ✓ Wide variety of activities to choose from, e.g. sports, art, music, dance, and cooking. Children want to take risks in a safe environment with their Short Breaks and want them to be exciting.
- ✓ Activities that prepare children for what it is like to work in a way they enjoy.
- ✓ Appropriately trained staff who are empathetic and understand the needs of the children and young people and can build genuine relationships.
- ✓ Suitable levels of support.
- ✓ Appropriate sensory environments where necessary.
- ✓ Accessible settings, particularly toilets and changing areas.
- ✓ Ability to provide feedback.
- ✓ Choice and flexible delivery.
- ✓ Easier referral pathways to access short breaks.
- ✓ Opportunity to access short breaks at key times, including weekends and holidays.
- ✓ The needs of the whole family to be considered.
- ✓ The 'basics' - all staff DBS-checked, the facilities are safe and clean.

We have used this feedback to develop a range of different Short Break services to suit various needs.

## 5. APPLYING FOR A SHORT BREAK: ACCESS AND ELIGIBILITY

Many children or young people with SEND will access a mixture of services. Some may access Specialist Services provided through an assessment, and some will be accessed through Targeted Services commissioned from voluntary or independent providers. Some children will be able to access Universal Short Breaks services with or without support. Short breaks can be described in the following three categories:



The information below describes what is available within each of these categories and how different types of Short Breaks can be accessed..

### 5.1 UNIVERSAL SHORT BREAKS

Universal Services offer Short Break opportunities open to all children and young people in Haringey who choose to use them whether or not they have a Special Educational Need and/or Disability (SEND). Universal Services offer activities that enable all children and young people to have fun and make friends. We want the services to be as inclusive as possible for children with disabilities. All Universal Services are expected to make reasonable adjustments to include children with SEND.

Children's Centres and Youth Clubs act as hubs for the local community and can provide information on the Universal Services available. We also launched the first-ever Family Hub to support children, young people aged 0-19 or up to 25 for children with SEND and their families based at the Triangle Centre. Four more Family Hubs will open within the borough before March 2025. They will bring services together in one place so that all families can access information and support when needed..



## HOW DO I ACCESS A UNIVERSAL SERVICE?

Many Universal Services advertise their activities within libraries, schools, Children's Centres, leisure centres and community centres. You can access Universal Services by contacting organisations directly to discuss the activities they offer.

Some of these activities may be free. Some may have costs for all children and young people who access them. Children and young people with SEND should not be charged more than other children or young people.

Though we recognise that children and young people with SEND may have specialist support requirements, we encourage parents and carers to access Universal Services and discuss the support their child needs with providers. This will help providers to increase their knowledge and skills regarding supporting children and young people with SEND. We advise that families tell the service provider about their child's additional needs including:

- Give the provider information about your child's additional needs and how to best support them. This could include sharing a copy of your child's SEN Support Plan or EHC Plan from school.
- Discuss and explore what the provider may need to change (reasonable adjustments) based on previous experience.
- Jointly assess the risks and make a plan to reduce those risks.
- Make a plan for your child to have a visit, trial session or to start attending.

Our Short Breaks Service can also be asked to support families and service providers with these discussions and can be contacted at [dctduty@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk) or call 020 8489 3671 | 020 8489 3672. Alternatively, contact the SEND Local Offer Team, who may be able to give you advice on 020 8489 1913.

Disability Action Haringey offers Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion training designed to support services to become more disability inclusive.

We will continue to ensure families are supported to make the best use of their Short Break with advice and input from a professional to access activities they will enjoy.

## YOU CAN LOOK FOR ACTIVITIES USING THESE HARINGEY WEBSITES:

- Haringey Family Information Service Directory (FSID).
- What's on? that lists events and activities in Haringey.
- Haringey Local Offer children and young person's special educational needs (SEN) and disability services website.

This year our summer holiday activities programme has a coloured rating of what level of support activities can provide for their participants. There are inclusive disabled sessions to ensure that we meet the needs of all local children and young people. Haringey is committed to ensuring all activities are as inclusive as possible and you will see within the booklet our new Inclusion Rating, designed to help individuals and families easily identify sessions that meet their needs

UNIVERSAL SERVICES	DESCRIPTION	WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION
<p><b>CHILDREN'S CENTRES</b></p>	<p>A Children's Centre brings together a range of services for children under five and their families such as family support, health and education.</p> <p>It includes good quality childcare, information, and support across the local community.</p> <p>Haringey Children Centre's are warm, stimulating and inclusive centres offering a range of activities and services.</p>	<p><a href="#">Haringey Children's Centres website</a> for a map and contact details of each Children's Centre in Haringey</p>
<p><b>YOUTH HUBS</b></p>	<p>Aimed at young people between the ages of 11 and 19 and those up to 25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), our Youth Hubs offer a place to relax and socialise, enjoy themselves in and learn.</p> <p>We offer a range of sports to encourage healthy lifestyles, specific activities targeting girls, new experiences, a focus on developing life skills and promoting inclusion of young people with SEND.</p> <p>Activities include for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment and life skills workshops</li> <li>• Informal education, arts and sports</li> <li>• Music: production/design/business development</li> <li>• Podcasting/Film production</li> <li>• Training kitchen/Café area</li> <li>• Web design/digital design</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Haringey Youth Space</a> For more information about a centre, activities, or for a free tour email <a href="mailto:youthspace@haringey.gov.uk">youthspace@haringey.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Youth Hubs</p> <p><a href="#">Bruce Grove Youth Centre</a> 10 Bruce Grove Tottenham N17 6RA Tel: 020 8493 1003</p> <p><a href="#">Rising Green Youth Hub</a> Unit 2, Lymington Avenue, Wood Green, N22 6JA</p>
<p><b>LEISURE CENTRES</b></p>	<p>There are several leisure centres in Haringey, run by Fusion Leisure, with swimming pools, gyms and group classes.</p>	<p>Further information can be found on our <a href="#">leisure centres website</a> or email <a href="mailto:Get.Active@haringey.gov.uk">Get.Active@haringey.gov.uk</a></p>

UNIVERSAL SERVICES	DESCRIPTION	WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION
<p><b>PENDARREN OUTDOOR CENTRE IN WALES</b></p>	<p>Pendarren House Outdoor Education Centre is a large country house set in the Brecon Beacons National Park and is owned and maintained by Haringey Council. Staff are experienced at working with students with special needs. Self-catering options are available.</p> <p>For those with physical disabilities, Pendarren has a DDA compliant self-catering bungalow, two off road wheelchairs, a minibus adapted to take one wheelchair and a climbing/abseiling ramp. The ground floor of the main house with the dining room and the kit stores are accessible by wheelchair.</p>	<p>Website  <a href="http://pendarren.org/">http://pendarren.org/</a></p>
<p><b>AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS INCLUDING IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS</b></p>	<p>After school clubs and out of school childcare in Haringey is usually for school-age children and runs before school, after school or during the school holidays.</p> <p>When contacting out of school providers check to see if they are registered with Ofsted which means that you can apply for help with <u>childcare costs</u>.</p>	<p>Primary schools manage much of the out of school childcare in Haringey. Please use the School Finder tool on the <u>GOV.UK website</u> to find your nearest primary school.</p> <p>For further information contact the Family Information Service</p> <p>Tel: 020 8489 1000            Email:  <a href="mailto:earlyeducation@haringey.gov.uk">earlyeducation@haringey.gov.uk</a>            Website: <u>Family Information Service Directory</u></p>
<p><b>SPORTS CLUBS AND GROUPS</b></p>	<p>You can find other <u>sports clubs and groups</u> on the Haringey Council website, many of which are set up for children and young people with disabilities or SEN.</p>	<p>Further information can be found on our <u>sports and physical activity website</u>.</p>

UNIVERSAL SERVICES	DESCRIPTION	WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION
<p><b>COMMUNITY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME</b></p>	<p>The council pulls together a list of all of the <u>holiday activities</u> taking place in Haringey for children and young people, including those suitable for children with disabilities or SEN..</p> <p>The programme includes sports, arts and crafts, and drama workshops.</p> <p>For most of the activities taking place you can just turn up on the day, but you will need to register in advance for some activities.</p> <p>Make sure you check the activity details and contact the right person/organisation by searching for activities online.</p>	<p><u>Holiday fun website</u></p> <p><u>Browse our What's On? calendar</u> to search for all activities and events for children and young people by date, venue or month. Events are often added to the programme.</p> <p>Download the summer holiday booklet to find out more <u>Summer holiday fun 2023 activity booklet (PDF, 71KB)</u></p>
<p><b>HOLIDAYS, ACTIVITIES AND FOOD (HAF) PROGRAMME</b></p>	<p>Children and young people aged 5 to 16 who are eligible for free school meals and their families are able to access free and enriching activities during the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays.</p> <p>We work with local partners to deliver the HAF Programme across Haringey. They include schools, local voluntary and community organisations and childcare providers.</p>	<p>See our <u>HAF programme</u> pages for details</p> <p>If your children are eligible for HAF your school or educational provider should send you a HAF voucher with your FSM code.</p> <p>If you have not received this voucher or have any queries about your eligibility please speak with your school or email <u>hafprogramme@haringey.gov.uk</u>.</p>
<p><b>LIBRARIES</b></p>	<p>Our children-friendly libraries are bursting with brilliant books and activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities for Under 5s</li> <li>• Rhyme Time and Singing Sessions</li> <li>• Messy Mornings and Craft Fun</li> <li>• Story Time</li> <li>• Stay and Play an opportunity for children to get to know, and to play with, other children.</li> </ul>	<p>Visit <u>Haringey Libraries</u> website for more information</p>

## 5.2 TARGETED SHORT BREAKS

Sometimes Universal Services cannot meet the needs of children and young people with additional needs, even when reasonable adjustments have been made. Targeted Services provide Short Break opportunities specifically aimed at children and young people with SEND. The London Borough of Haringey funds some Targeted Services, while voluntary groups and charities provide others. Services that the Local Authority does not commission may carry a charge.

Targeted Short Breaks supplement the local universal provision and enable families to access Targeted Short Breaks with and without an assessment.

Details of Targeted Short Breaks currently commissioned by Haringey Council can be found in the [Haringey Short Breaks Framework \(PDF, 72KB\)](#).

### HOW DO I ACCESS A TARGETED SERVICE?

To access these activities, we advise parents and carers to contact providers directly. Examples of targeted activities would include theatre groups for the disabled, disability sports clubs, targeted youth groups etc. More information about targeted activities for children and young people with SEND can be found on the Haringey Local Offer website: [Activities for SEND children and families](#) For some Targeted Short Breaks an assessment will be required that will be presented to the Integrated Additional Services Panel (IASP).

TARGETED SHORT BREAKS	DESCRIPTION	WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION
<b>SPORTING ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS</b>	<p>The <a href="#">Get Out Get Active (GOGA)</a> Haringey is a programme supporting disabled and non-disabled people to be active together.</p> <p>Including for example Highgate Inclusive Tennis Club (PDF, 200KB) for young disabled people aged 6 – 21 years. Sessions are pan-disability, and are delivered by an inclusively trained coach.</p>	Browse <a href="#">Get Out Get Active (GOGA) Haringey</a> for the full programme
<b><u>DIRECT PAYMENTS</u></b>	A dedicated amount of money that the Council allocates towards the cost of a Short Break for your child.	<p>Please speak to your SENCO, lead professional or child's social worker. Alternatively contact the Disabled Children's Team</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk">dctduty@haringey.gov.uk</a> Tel: 020 8489 3671   020 8489 3672</p>

TARGETED SHORT BREAKS	DESCRIPTION	WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION
<p><b>THE CHALLENGE AND HAVEN GROUPS</b></p>	<p>These are two playgroups located in the west of the borough and offer a space and time for parents and carers to come together and share experiences while their children play in an inclusive environment.</p> <p>Both groups are open to children of all age ranges and welcome parents and carers whose children are at school.</p>	<p>Please see the following contacts, dates, and times for each group:</p> <p>The Haven: Wednesday, 10am to 11.30am - downstairs at Union Church and Community Centre, Weston Park, Crouch End, N8 9PX</p> <p>The Challenge Group: Fridays 10am to 11.30am St James's Church, St James's Lane, Muswell Hill, London N10 3D8 Email <a href="mailto:challenge@unionccc.org.uk">challenge@unionccc.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>LANGUAGE AND AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP</b></p>	<p>The Language and Autism Support Team run a term-time weekly youth club for secondary aged children with Autism.</p>	<p><a href="#">The Language and Autism Support Team website</a> Telephone 020 8489 5039 Email <a href="mailto:esther.joseph@haringey.gov.uk">esther.joseph@haringey.gov.uk</a></p>
<p><b>HARINGEY SHED'S YOUTH THEATRE</b></p>	<p>Haringey Shed is an inclusive theatre and performing arts company for children and young people aged 7 to 19 years. They provide a range of term time after school activities and holiday programmes.</p>	<p><a href="#">Haringey Shed website</a> Or contact <a href="mailto:info@haringeyshed.org">info@haringeyshed.org</a></p>
<p><b>FULLY ACCESSIBLE CARAVAN FOR HOLIDAYS</b></p>	<p>If your family is receiving a Haringey Short break package or Personal Budget, you can book our fully accessible 6-berth caravan at <a href="#">Highfield Grange Holiday Park, Clacton on Sea, Essex</a>, for reduced rates.</p> <p>For Haringey residents without a Short Break package or Personal Budget, the caravan is available for additional charge.</p>	<p>To book, email <a href="mailto:s-IASP@haringey.gov.uk">s-IASP@haringey.gov.uk</a> with the reference 'Caravan booking' and provide your child's name and requested dates.</p>

## 5.3 SPECIALIST SHORT BREAKS

Specialist Short Breaks are services for disabled children with the most complex needs. Specialist Short Breaks support children, young people and their families where the child or young person's disability has a substantial and long-term effect on their ability to carry out day-to-day activities. Specialist Short Breaks include:

- Day care or overnight Short Breaks with an approved Foster Carer
- Residential Short Break Facilities
- Personal Budget including Direct Payments
- Home care and agency support

### HOW DO I ACCESS A SPECIALIST SHORT BREAK?

In order to access Specialist Short Breaks, your child will require an assessment of need. For most Specialist Short Breaks, this assessment will be completed by a Social Worker and is called a Child and Family Assessment. There are exceptions to this which can include Personal Budgets, including Direct Payments.

These can be accessed through an Early Help Assessment by the Haringey Early Help Service or a RAS Assessment, which can be carried out by a professional who knows your family well, such as a professional at your child's school.

Eligibility decisions are based on individual needs including to what extent a child or young person's disability or impairment affects their lives and those who live with and care for them. However, it is likely that if a child or young person is eligible for Specialist Short Breaks support, their disability and/or special educational needs could be described in one or more of the following ways:

- A significant, permanent and enduring physical disability;
- A significant global learning disability;
- A severe and enduring communication disorder;
- Autism with a significant global development delay and/or challenging behaviour; and/or
- A significant sensory impairment.

SPECIALIST SHORT BREAKS	DESCRIPTION	WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION
<p><b>PERSONAL ASSISTANTS</b></p>	<p>Following an assessment, families may wish to receive a Personal Budget in the form of a Direct Payment to employ a personal assistant to accompany the child or young person at activities in the community or will provide an overnight short break. For more information about Direct Payments please see below.</p>	<p>Please speak to your child's social worker. If you do not have a social worker contact the Disabled Children's Team                      Email: <a href="mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk">dctduty@haringey.gov.uk</a>                      Tel: 020 8489 3671   020 8489 3672</p>

SPECIALIST SHORT BREAKS	DESCRIPTION	WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION
<p><b>RESPIRE RESIDENTIAL UNITS</b></p>	<p>Respite Day and Overnight Care Options</p>	<p><u>Haricare</u> website to search for options Please speak to your child's social worker. If you do not have a social worker contact the Disabled Children's Team</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk">dctduty@haringey.gov.uk</a> Tel: 020 8489 3671   020 8489 3672</p>
<p><b>THE MARKFIELD PROJECT</b></p>	<p>Markfield has an adventure playground, sensory room and soft play. Highly trained staff are experienced in including children with a wide range of disabilities and facilitating child led play activities. Places are purchased through Short Breaks budgets.</p>	<p><a href="mailto:enquiries@markfield.org.uk">enquiries@markfield.org.uk</a> or Contact the Disabled Children's Team</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk">dctduty@haringey.gov.uk</a> Tel: 020 8489 3671   020 8489 3672</p>
<p><b>POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT SERVICES</b></p>	<p>This service will provide intensive behavioural analysis and therapeutic intervention for children and young people with a learning disability/ Autistic Spectrum Disorder.</p>	<p>Contact the Disabled Children's Team Email: <a href="mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk">dctduty@haringey.gov.uk</a> Tel: 020 8489 3671   020 8489 3672</p>
<p><b>FAMILY LINK SCHEME AND OVERNIGHT SHORT BREAKS</b></p>	<p>Family Link is a fostering service for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Carers provide a range of both day and overnight stays to disabled children specifically under the age of 10, with breaks being offered in the carer's own home or in the community.</p>	<p>Please speak to your child's social worker. If you do not have a social worker contact the Disabled Children's Team</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk">dctduty@haringey.gov.uk</a> Tel: 020 8489 3671   020 8489 3672</p>



SPECIALIST SHORT BREAKS	DESCRIPTION	WHERE TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION
<p><b>SPECIALIST SERVICES PURCHASED BY THE DISABLED CHILDREN'S TEAM</b></p>	<p>Children and young people may access providers due to their need for specialist support. This would be identified as part of the assessment process with a social worker.</p> <p>This service might be home care, going out and about with support, or a service from one of our preferred providers. Our preferred providers include:</p> <p><u>Centre 404</u> - Learning and Leisure groups and activities for children, young people and adults with a learning disability or autism that build social networks, reduce isolation and promote independence</p> <p><u>Haringey Shed</u>- Haringey Shed is an inclusive theatre and performing arts company for children and young people</p> <p><u>KIDS</u> - KIDS workers take the child or young person out into a community setting, such as to the cinema, bowling or to the local swimming pool. A KIDS worker can also care for the child or young person in their own home</p> <p><u>My AFK – formerly Action for Kids</u> - Activities and events that help prepare young people for adulthood</p> <p><u>Resources for Autism</u> - Resources for Autism provide practical services for children and adults with a diagnosis of autism and their families</p> <p><u>Step by Step</u> - Activities include animal workshops, creative arts, sensory storytelling, science activities, soap workshop, balloon race, carnival, sand art and lots more. Other activities include off-site trips to farms, indoor play areas, theme parks, trampoline parks and bowling, and a variety of performances</p> <p><u>Team Spirit</u> - After school holiday clubs and family respite run by Riverside Special School and known as 'Team Spirit'. Please contact the school for more details.</p>	<p>Please speak to your child's social worker. If you do not have a social worker contact the Disabled Children's Team</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk">dctduty@haringey.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Tel: 020 8489 3671   020 8489 3672</p>

## HOW TO REQUEST AN ASSESSMENT FOR SHORT BREAKS

Any child or young person with additional need is entitled to an assessment of need as set out in the Children Act 1989. The carers needs will be considered as part of this assessment. Haringey is committed to completing these assessments when a request to do so is received.

If you are interested in applying for a Short Break for your child or would like to request an assessment, you should discuss this with your child's Special Education Needs Co-Ordinator (SENCO) or another professional working with your child, or you can contact the Disabled Children's Social Work Team duty desk for advice [dctduty@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk)

Parents and carers can also make a referral to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) (020 8489 4470) to discuss their child's needs. Our MASH comprises qualified Social Workers with the training and experience to discuss any identified needs. The MASH will decide if a RAS Assessment<sup>1</sup>, Early Help Assessment or a Child and Family Assessment is the most appropriate for your family. If a RAS assessment is recommended, signposting will be provided. If an Early Help Assessment is the most appropriate pathway, the Early Help Service will identify a practitioner to lead the assessment. If a Child and Family Assessment is recommended, the referral will be forwarded to the relevant Social Work Team.

## INTEGRATED ADDITIONAL SERVICES PANEL

If an assessment identifies a need for Short Breaks then the recommendations are presented to the [Integrated Additional Services Panel \(PDF, 200KB\)](#) who meet weekly to consider information and evidence that has been gathered alongside the views of the children and their families. The Panel is made up of people representing the health; social care; education; and housing services and will always take your views into account.

The Panel agree the level and type of support to be provided and if a Short Break is appropriate. Once the Panel has made its decision, a letter is sent to your family with details of the level and type of support that has been agreed and the rationale behind the decision to ensure an open and transparent process.

Decisions made by the Panel regarding the services and funding to be provided will be reviewed at least once a year to determine if the package still meets the identified needs and outcomes of your child. It also recognises that children may move between levels of service at different stages in their life or when circumstances change.

<sup>1</sup> We are working with our Partners, including SEND Power, to simplify the RAS and make it even more accessible to a wider range of children and families.

## 6. PERSONAL BUDGETS INCLUDING DIRECT PAYMENTS

A Personal Budget is a dedicated amount of money that the Council allocates towards the cost of a Short Break for your child, if they are assessed as needing this. This could include an amount to enable your child to access the short break and/or funding for the short break activity. Personal Budgets aim to give you and your child more flexibility, choice and control over the care or support your child receives. This allows you to have a greater input about what types of activities your child attends and the support you know your child needs.

There are different ways you can receive your Personal Budget. These are;

- Direct payment -The payment is paid to a bank account that is exclusively used for the purpose of the Personal Budget account and your family buy and manage the Short Break services yourselves. Direct Payments can be used flexibly to purchase Short Breaks from an inclusive setting, or by employing a support worker or Personal Assistant as agreed in your child or young person's Care Plan.
- Council managed budget – An amount of money is allocated which the Council's Personal Budget officers use to commission services on your child's behalf up to the value of the budget.
- Council provided services.
- Through a combination of the above.

The Personal Budget is reviewed every year. More information can be found on Haringey's Local Offer or can be requested by emailing [personalbudget@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:personalbudget@haringey.gov.uk)

## 7. SUMMARY OF SERVICES

UNIVERSAL SERVICES	TARGETED SERVICES	SPECIALIST SERVICES
No assessment needed	Offered with and without assessment  Additional 1:1 support funding is available	Assessment needed to assess eligibility for services
Mainstream activities such as leisure centres, holiday activities, sports, scouts.	Targeted activities would include theatre for the disabled, disability sports clubs, targeted youth groups	Short Breaks Respite Units, Direct Payments, Home Care, Short Break Foster Care

### 8. IF A CHILD / YOUNG PERSON IS ASSESSED AS NOT BEING ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIALIST SHORT BREAKS

Children and young people and their families who, despite their disability, are assessed as not being eligible for Specialist Short Breaks, will be signposted to Universal and Targeted Services.

### 9. WHAT IS THE DISABLED CHILDREN'S REGISTER?

All Local Authorities hold a database of children and young people with disabilities living in the borough. This is often referred to as the 'Disabled Children's Register'. The purpose of the Register is to record information about children and young people with disabilities and the Short Breaks they access to ensure that Local Authorities can forward plan and predict what services they need to commission and make available in the future.

When children with disabilities are assessed as eligible for Specialist Short Breaks, families will be asked if they are happy for their child's details to be added to the Disabled Children's Register. Adding a child's name to the Register is voluntary, and families will always be asked for their consent before a child's name is added.

### 10. TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

Transport for Short Breaks is not ordinarily provided. However, transport is provided by some Short Breaks providers to allow a child to get to their Short Break. Families should ask the provider if transport is provided as part of their offer.

We run travel training activities over the summer holidays to help children learn to get out and about and practice their route to school.

If your child would like to try the travel training summer scheme and go out with a buddy for a few hours a day in the holidays, please apply through the transport application on the Local Offer – [Travel Buddying and Independent Travel Training](#).

### 11. TRANSITIONS

We want the transition from childhood to adulthood to be an exciting and optimistic time for young people and to support them with the vital skills as they become young adults and take their place in the world. Our Short Breaks provide opportunities for young people to extend their independence and life skills by focusing on:

- Employment;
- Independent Living;
- Friends, Relationships & Community; and
- Good Health

Young people have told us they want to continue spending time with their school friends once they are 18 and not lose contact because they can only attend Short Breaks provided by Adult Services. Our Short breaks will be developed to reflect their needs as teenagers, ensuring friendship circles that carry through into adult life.

We also want the transition from Children's to Adult's Services to be a seamless and well-coordinated experience for young people and their families. When young people turn 17 years old and are accessing a Specialist Short Breaks service, we begin the process of planning their transition into Adult Services. Children are referred to the Transitions Team, who will carry out their own Assessment to establish if the young person meets the criteria for continued support and access to specialist adult services.

If you require more information or feel your child requires the assistance of the Transitions Team, please discuss it with your child's Social Worker.

For those children who are not accessing a Specialist Short Break but may be accessing Universal or Targeted Short Breaks, or where it is felt that a specialist service will be required after a young person's 18th birthday, a referral can be made to Adult Social Care by contacting the First Response Team 020 8489 1400. More information can also be found on the [Haringey Preparing for Adulthood Website](#).

## 12. THE IMPACT OF SHORT BREAKS

We ensure that our Short Break services focus on transforming the experiences and outcomes of disabled children and their families. Our Short Break statement continues to be informed by consultation and feedback from children and young people with SEND, their families and professionals from Social Care, Health, Education and the voluntary sector.

We know that the views of children and families, are essential for future success and look forward to continuing to strengthen the voices of children, parents and carers through our Parent Carer Forum and Children's Consultation Forum.

We continue to measure child and family satisfaction and staff confidence and skill in meeting the needs of disabled children in Short Break settings as part of a cycle of continuous improvement.

We recognise that increasing demand on services and changing needs means we must regularly review the services we commission and deliver. This ensures they will continue to meet the needs of children and families and make the best use of resources.

As outlined in our SEND Strategy 2022-2025, we will know we have achieved impact against our current Short Breaks priorities when:

- Parents and carers know about, and can easily find and access, the local offer, which includes short breaks, social activities for children, local respite provision and for older children, short breaks in the summer holidays.
- More children and families are receiving short breaks offers and early help support.

Any changes we make in response to consultation with parents, carers, and young people will be publicised on the Local Offer web pages.

### 13. LISTENING TO YOU

To have your say and to get involved with developing and shaping the services on the Short Breaks offer in Haringey, you can email the Haringey Local Offer at [sen@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:sen@haringey.gov.uk)

Want to be involved in shaping local services or want to know what's going on? Visit our [Get Involved Website](#)

### 14. WHAT TO DO IF THINGS DO NOT GO TO PLAN

If you are trying to access Short Breaks and things are not going to plan, or you have any concerns, we recommend you talk to the organisation providing the Short Break or activity first. If this does not help, several steps can be taken.

If the service is a Universal Short Break provider, you can talk to the SEND Local Offer Team, who may be able to give you advice. You can contact the team on 020 8489 1913.

If you have an allocated Lead Professional or Social Worker, you can raise concerns about Short Breaks services with them. They can talk to the service or provider or seek advice on your behalf. If this does not help and the service is provided or commissioned by Haringey Council, you can make a complaint by contacting the Haringey Customer Relations Team.

If you are unhappy with a decision made by the IASP Panel about accessing a Specialist Short Break, you can appeal the Panel's decision in writing to [IASP@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:IASP@haringey.gov.uk) stating why you disagree with the outcome and by providing additional information for the Panel to consider.

If, after your request to the Panel with additional information, you are still not happy with the outcome, you can make a complaint by contacting the Haringey Customer Relations Team. Please use our Customer Relations [online feedback form](#) or contact the team on 020 8489 3424

## 15. FURTHER CONTACTS

### [Haringey Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service \(SEND IASS\)](#)

If you would like to speak to someone about any of the services available to you and your child, contact the Special Educational Needs Information, Advice & Support Service (SEND IASS) for free and confidential advice.

Email: [sendiass@markfield.org.uk](mailto:sendiass@markfield.org.uk)

Tel: Helpline 020 88022611

The Disabled Children's Team (DCT), including the Short Breaks Service  
Disabled Children's Social Work Team  
Alexandra House - 2nd Floor  
10 Station Road  
Wood Green  
London N22 7TR

Email: [dctduty@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:dctduty@haringey.gov.uk)

Tel: 020 8489 3671 | 020 8489 3672

Emergency telephone number (out of hours) : 020 8489 0000

Personal Budget Officer Contact details:

Disabled Children's Team  
48 Station Road,  
London N22 7TY

Email: [DCTPersonalBudgets@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:DCTPersonalBudgets@haringey.gov.uk)

Tel: 020 8489 3671 / 8489

### [Home - SEND Power in Haringey | Haringey's Parent Carer Forum](#)

Open to all parents and carers of children and young people (up to 25) with SEND who live in or access services, in Haringey.

### [Elevated Youth Haringey](#)

Elevated Youth Haringey is a forum for young people with SEND. It encourages young people with lived experience of SEND to help design the service by shaping it from within.

### [Haringey's Local Offer](#)

The Local Offer is information for parents/carers of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. It explains the support we offer in Haringey for those children and young people.

### [Haringey's Early Help and Prevention Offer](#)

Haringey Council has a range of services for you and your families to support you.

### [Haringey Holiday Fun](#)

Promoting all school holiday programmes.

### [Haringey Services and support for autistic children and young people including our Autism Hub](#)

Range of services and support groups available for parents, carers and young people.

### [Haringey Young Carers Project](#)

Haringey Young Carers Project provides regular group activities for young carers aged 11-18. These sessions include a variety of activities such as sports, cooking and music, as well as a number of educational workshops such as career planning, budgeting and exploring the role of a young carer.

### Child care

If you need a break from caring for your child so that you can go to work, then this becomes a childcare requirement. Find further information on childcare please contact: Family Information Service

Tel: 020 8489 1000

Email: [early.years@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:early.years@haringey.gov.uk)

### Additional Useful Links Short Breaks –

How Local Authorities should provide Short Break Care

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/short-breaks-for-carers-of-disabledchildren>

### Children and Families Act 2014

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted> SEND code of practice – 0-25years <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

Council for Disabled Children <https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/our-work>

If you would like this document in a different format, please contact the Haringey Disabled Children's Team on 020 8489 3671.

We hope the information contained within this statement will help you identify support and Short Break opportunities available to you in the London Borough of Haringey.