

Short Breaks Services Statement

Guide for Parents and Carers

1. Introduction

Short breaks form part of a range of services provided by the Children and Young People with Disabilities (CYAD) Service.

The team work with children up to 25 years old.

Short breaks provide your child with the opportunity to take part in fun and exciting activities and for you (their parent/carer) to also have a break from care giving so that you can spend more time with other family members, pursue your own interests either educationally or socially or just take time to relax.

Short breaks can take place within or away from your home. Regular short breaks can contribute to building resilience in families.

There may be a cost involved to attend some of these services.

2. Range of Short Breaks Available

- Specialist group play and leisure activities e.g. play schemes, after school clubs
- Community outreach e.g. one to one support to access the community, care in the home

Services and activities available on the short breaks framework can be found at:

http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/100010/health_and_social_care/718/short_breaks_for_disabled_children

There are two different ways to access short breaks:

2.1 Core Offer Short Breaks

If a child or young person with a disability (up to the age of 18) living in Harrow receives Disability Living Allowance at Medium or High Rate they may be eligible for Core Offer Short Breaks.

The Core Offer provides you with a Direct Payment (an annual budget) that you can use to purchase short breaks from a wide range of providers either within or outside of the Borough. Feedback from parents/carers during the short breaks consultation showed that

some of the types of activities they used the budgets for were horse riding, swimming lessons, yoga, Karate.

In circumstances where you are unable to manage a direct payment CYAD can arrange for your child to access school holiday play schemes or outreach services that are provided by one of the organisations on the short breaks framework.

2.2 With a CYAD Assessment of Need and agreed Care Plan

If your child meets the CYAD criteria, a full assessment of their and your needs will be carried out. Please click on the link below to see the CYAD criteria and types of support available (http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/200220/special_educational_needs_and_disabilities_send/715/the_children_and_young_adults_disabilities_service)

If short breaks are recommended as a result of the assessment they will be constructed to achieve agreed outcomes.

These can be delivered by either a Direct Payment (link to information on Direct Payment) which will provide you with the opportunity to manage a budget to access a wide range of providers within and outside the Borough. In circumstances where you are unable to manage a direct payment CYAD can arrange for your child to access activities delivered by the providers on the Short Breaks Framework.

3. How to apply for a Short Break

If you do not already receive a service from Harrow Council, please contact the MASH team on 020 8901 2690.

If your child is already known to CYADS you can apply for a social work assessment or review by applying on-line

http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/200220/special_educational_needs_and_disabilities_send/715/the_children_and_young_adults_disabilities_service/2

4. Consultation and Review

Harrow recognises the need for children with a disability to be included in mainstream activities and actively encourages parents/carers with Direct Payments to utilise mainstream activities where appropriate. Harrow Council also runs a variety of activities via its Early Support Service that children and young people with disabilities can access.

This statement has been developed from information provided by parents/carers as part of the Short Breaks consultation, Harrow Parents 4 Disabled Children (HP4DC) and other key stakeholders.

This statement can be made available in community languages and accessible formats upon request by contacting the Children and Young People with Disabilities service on 0208 966 6481

