

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 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 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.

### Who are Short Breaks Services for?

Families living in the borough who have a child or children with a disability aged between 0 – 18 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.

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.

### **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.

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

### **Benefits for Parents and Carers**

Studies have shown that for some parents of 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.

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 and enable them to be better able to cope with any difficulties they may face.

### **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, as part of the range of services they provide for families, breaks from caring for carers of children with disabilities to support them to continue to care for their children and to allow them to do so more effectively. (Very long sentence)

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**

#### **The Heathway Centre**

Our Disabled Children's Resource Centre "The Heathway Centre" is based at 512a The Heathway, Dagenham, RM10 7SJ.

The Heathway Centre delivers a full programme of services for children with disabilities and additional needs and their parents and carers. Some of these services are universal and some targeted at the interests and needs of particular groups. It is a base to meet for groups of parents, the local voluntary sector and others.

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. The centre is open in

the evenings and at the weekends, as well as weekdays.

All the services have been developed in consultation with families.

Please contact the centre on 020 8227 5500 for more information.

### **Portage, Early Support and Inclusion**

Portage, Early Support and Inclusion is a pre-school home visiting service for disabled children and those with additional needs from birth to three and their families. Portage and Early Support is based on regular visits to the child's home by a trained Portage home visitor. The Portage home visitor works closely with the child's parent or carer to establish the skills the child already has and then, together, decide on what skills the child needs to go on to learn next.

To be eligible for Portage, Early Support and Inclusion a child must meet the following conditions:

- Live in Barking and Dagenham
- Be under three years old
- Must not be attending nursery for more than two days a week
- Must have a significant developmental delay in two or more areas of development or a diagnosis that means such delay is likely.
- Parents/carers must want to be involved with Portage and Early Support

You can speak to your health visitor if you need more information.

### **Makaton**

Makaton Sign Language is a system that children and adults with communication and learning difficulties use to communicate. 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 Portage and Early Support and you can phone 020 8724 8550 to put your name on the waiting list. Once you have left your name, contact details and whether you want day or evening sessions you will be contacted as soon as a place is available.

### **Children's Services incl. Children's Centres**

Children's Service's offer:

- The opportunity to attend a variety of parenting courses at Children's Centres including:
  - Webster Stratton,
  - Incredible Years
  - Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities
  - Oxford Brookes Strengthening Families 10-14 (UK)
  - Speakeasy
  - Life Choices
- Free ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes which are provided at children's centres in every locality;
- Access to sensory rooms at several children's centres;
- Speech Therapy and advice sessions are available at a children's centre in every locality;
- Play and communication sessions at every children's centre can help develop your child's early communication;
- Advice about returning to work and Job Centre Plus can be accessed at all of the Children's Centres;
- 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 about welfare benefits is provided at all children's centres.

Further information can be located by clicking [here](#).

### **Leisure Services**

Leisure Services in Barking & Dagenham offer a range of activities for disabled children from After School Clubs, Junior Gym, Sports sessions including athletics and trampolining.

If you are in receipt of Carer's Allowance then you are eligible to apply for a Leisure Pass that allows you to use leisure facilities for 50% less than the normal adult price at off-peak times from Monday to Friday. This also allows you to accompany your disabled child to leisure activities such as swimming for free.

Please look at the Leisure Services section of the Barking & Dagenham website 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 an accessible Caravan 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 disabled children's team, 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 020 8522 9692 or the Short Break Worker on 020 8227 5988

### **Participation and Feedback**

The Borough-Wide Parents Board meetings meet bi-monthly. The meetings are for parents/carers and representatives from voluntary & community groups to have their say on key issues and participate in planning, implementing and monitoring services on offer to

families. The Borough-Wide Parents Board has an LDD (Learning Difficulties and Disabilities) 'Just Say' subcommittee for parents who are, or have children with learning difficulties and disabilities. This group also meet bi-monthly. The subcommittee is part of the National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF). A parent is elected annually to be Chair and Vice-Chair of the board and the LDD group.

To accommodate parents, crèche and evening meetings are held and training is available. Further information is available from Kevin Donovan, Children's Rights, Participation and Engagement Manager. Telephone: 0208 227 3760 or e-mail: [kevin.donovan@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.donovan@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Email:** [bwpb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bwpb@hotmail.co.uk)

**Website:** Click [Here](#)

**Facebook:**

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/194120360652862/>

### **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 23 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 at their centre at Kingsley Hall, Parsloes Avenue, Dagenham, Essex RM9 5NB between the times of 5.30pm and 8pm, as well as meeting for various member-led activities throughout the month.

For further information, contact:

Carron Beckwith

Participation Officer

Barking and Dagenham Progress Project

Tel: 07506 783 037 / 020 8592 2020

**Email:** [c\\_beckwithpp@btconnect.com](mailto:c_beckwithpp@btconnect.com)



## 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 families needs, to be able to provide the Short Breaks Services at the right time.

Assessments can be brief depending on the nature of the circumstances. In some cases it may be sufficient to decide the nature of any services required. In others it may determine that Child in Need (CIN) Initial or Core Assessments are required.

Our aim is that the level of assessment is proportionate to the apparent 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).<sup>2</sup> 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:

- General Practitioners, Health Centres, Child Development Centre, School Nurses and Primary Care Trust;
- Nurseries, Pre-Schools/Day Nurseries, Lower, Middle and Upper Schools and Colleges;
- Voluntary Sector Organisations;
- Social Care Workers;
- 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.

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 the next 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:** [ShortBreaks@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:ShortBreaks@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.

### Monitoring and Review

Barking and Dagenham Council aims 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.

It is also 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.

Barking and Dagenham Council recognises that the needs of children and their families change and that re-assessment of these needs may be required.

If you would like your needs re-assessed please contact the Lead Professional or Social Worker who will be able to discuss this with you further.

### Direct Payments and Individual Budgets

Direct payments are local council payments for people who have had a formal assessment of need. They can be used for Short Break Services, or as an alternative to direct services.

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: 020 8522 9691.

### Useful Contacts

#### Family Information Service

The Family Information Service has an online directory which holds local and national information on childcare, youth clubs, sport and leisure activities, family support groups, and services for children with a disability.

**Telephone:** 020 8227 5395

**E-Mail:** [fis@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:fis@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Website:** [Click Here](#)

#### Disabled Children's Team

**Telephone:** 020 8522 9691

#### 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

#### Disabled Children's Register

The register is an electronic database of children and young people in the Borough who have a disability. Being part of the register means parents and carers are sent useful information on local services on a regular basis.

For more information, or if you wish to make a registration please call the number below.

**Telephone:** 020 8227 5500

### Portage, Early Support and Inclusion

Provides educational support and advice to children aged from 0 – 5 years with special educational needs.

**Telephone:** 020 8724 8550

### Parents in Partnership Service

The Parents in Partnership (PiP) 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:** Municipal Offices  
127 Ripple Road  
Barking  
IG11 7PB

**Telephone:** 020 8227 3811

**E-mail:** [childrenss@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:childrenss@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](mailto:ShortBreaks@lbbd.gov.uk)

### Local Providers

DABD

**Telephone:** 020 8215 9630

Carers of Barking and Dagenham

**Telephone:** 020 8593 4422

PACT

**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](mailto:fis@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Website:** [Click Here](#)

### Children's Centres

#### Abbey

North Street, Barking, IG11 8JA

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1262

[abbeychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:abbeychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

#### Alibon

175 Sterry Road, Dagenham, RM10 8PT

**Telephone:** 020 8227 2220

[alibonchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:alibonchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

#### Becontree

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

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1830

[becontreechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:becontreechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

#### Castle Green

Gale Street, Dagenham, RM9 4UN

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1530

[castlegreenc@lifelineprojects.co.uk](mailto:castlegreenc@lifelineprojects.co.uk)

#### Eastbury

Blake Avenue, Barking, IG11 9SQ

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1950

[eastburychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:eastburychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

#### Ford Road

Ford Road, Dagenham, RM10 9JS

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1384

[fordroadchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:fordroadchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

#### Furze

Farrance Road, Chadwell Heath, RM66EB

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1941

[furzechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:furzechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Gascoigne**

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

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1147

[gascoignechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:gascoignechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**John Perry**

Auriel Avenue, Dagenham, RM10 8BS

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1560

[johnperrychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:johnperrychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Leys**

215 Wellington Drive, Dagenham, RM10 9X

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1983

[leyschildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:leyschildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Manor**

Sandringham Road, Barking, IG11 9AG

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1801

[manorchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:manorchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Marsh Green**

New Road, Dagenham, RM10 9NJ

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1553

[marshgreenchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:marshgreenchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Mayesbrook**

50 Markyate Road, Dagenham, RM8 2LD

**Telephone:** 020 8227 2810

[mayesbrookchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:mayesbrookchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Sue Bramley**

Bastable Avenue, Barking, IG11 0LG

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1020

[suebramleychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:suebramleychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Sydney Russell**

Parsloes Avenue, Dagenham, RM9 5QS

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1840

[sydneyrussellchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:sydneyrussellchildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**Wellgate**

119 Rose Lane, Romford, RM6 5NR

**Telephone:** 020 8270 6091

[wellgatechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:wellgatechildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)

**William Bellamy**

Frizlands Lane, Dagenham, RM10 7HX

**Telephone:** 020 8724 1924

[williambellamychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:williambellamychildrenscentre@lbbd.gov.uk)



## Commissioned Services

### Barnados

*Evening Play scheme/After School Provision for 0-6 year olds*

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

Barnardo's will provide after-school clubs for disabled children aged 0-6 years of age, including those children with complex needs and challenging behaviour. The sessions run from 3 - 6.30pm for up to 8 children per session, 2 days per week during term time (40 weeks) based at location in Barking and Dagenham.

In addition if the child is under 4 years old we will have the capacity to run day time sessions in the morning or afternoon to provide a short break for parents and to prepare the child for school readiness. These short break sessions will run for 3 hours per session (either 9.30am-12.30pm, or 12noon to 3pm) for up to 8 children twice a week term time. The sessions will be based at Indigo premises in Ilford, Essex, or alternatively can be run from a suitable venue in Barking and Dagenham, for example a Children's Centre or the family resource centre at the Heathway

The clubs/sessions will provide children with the opportunity to participate in a range of fun and stimulating activities which give them a chance to try new things and develop new skills. This includes messy play, cooking, crafts and sensory play, games, drama and story telling etc. The sessions will support the development of social skills, self help skills and provide support towards independence. In addition clubs/sessions will support a number of outings into the community visiting the local park, play centre, farms etc.

Indigo has a fully equipped and resourced environment for disabled children and provides access to multi sensory rooms and soft play outdoor equipment. Its location is also one of its strengths and is accessible to families and carers of children with disabilities easily by public transport. We have capacity to provide limited transport for daytime sessions if they are required but there would be an additional cost.

The Service will work in partnership with Pre School/ Early Year's provision and Education to prepare children for school readiness and to

support the transition into school. This will be done by providing information for education statements, by providing support staff and by preparing a detailed review of the child's progress to go with the child into the new setting.

### MCCH

*Evening Play scheme/After School Provision for 6-14 year olds*

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

A service that supports children/young people to play, have learning opportunities, meet and make friends, "chill out", be supported with home work, in a safe environment. A broad range of fun activities will be offered both indoors and outdoors and a light nutritious snack will be available. The service will be delivered Monday to Friday from 3.30pm to 6.30pm during term time from 1st April 2013 – 31st March 2013 (39 weeks).

A range of tools individually tailored to each person will be available to promote engagement/development and support each young person in accordance with their wishes, needs and aspirations including accessible skills teaching programmes, support guidelines, health monitoring systems and behaviour support plans. Collaborative working with the child, parents/carers, and school will enhance opportunities to maintain existing skills, and develop new skills as part of on going skills development

### PACT

*Evening Play scheme/After School Provision for 6-14 year olds*

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

**When:** Mondays 6-8pm

Our 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 6 -14 with LDD or affected by 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 we use various methods of communication to support young people with LDD or ASD regardless of where they may be placed on the spectrum. We provide early interventions for young people to explore issues that are affecting their education, social situations including developing and maintaining friendships and other areas as they learn to cope with their autism and the challenges that may arise as a result of the same.

The clubs also offer a range of fun social activities from arts & craft and sports to independent living skills such as shopping, cooking, handling money, travel training and trips out including visits to the cinema, bowling or having a meal in a restaurant. The club has been designed to improve confidence particularly in social situations and assists young people with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities and Autism in Barking and Dagenham to improve their communication skills, make friends and join in new activities.

**Willow Lodge**

*Evening Play Scheme/After School Provision for 14-18 year olds (8 places)*

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

Our service is being offered one evening per week for three 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. Our proposed evening activities are a minimum of 3 hours per event dependent upon activity this may be increased.

Our aim would be to use the Funky Willows structure to deliver the tendered services as we are confident that we are offering programmes which meet the needs of young people. The provision currently extends young people's horizons and presents them with achievable challenges. This is why we feel our organisation is well-equipped to deal with this challenge and know that we would be able to offer a service

that is realistic and achievable as we have a successful provision in place at present.

The after school provision would be delivered in a variety of different locations within the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and surrounding boroughs. Some activities will be delivered utilising the vast space our base centre has to offer if this is suitable or alternatively the local children's centre in Dagenham. The after school provision will include a vast range of activities to include:

- Bowling
- Cinema
- Dinner
- Movie Nights
- Karaoke
- Arts & Crafts
- 5-a-side Football sessions
- Circus Skills
- Cycling Centre
- Music Therapy
- Drama
- Pottery
- Theatre Shows
- Zumba/Fitness Sessions
- Go Karting
- Hydrotherapy swim sessions
- Multi sports
- Dance

The after school provision will run 1 evening per week, we envisage for ease and continuity that we would keep to the same evening every week but this is negotiable due to demand and input from the children's services team.

Inclusive of the price quoted, Willow Lodge prides itself on offering a door to door pick up and drop off service to each service user. In our experience we have found this to be invaluable to parents/carers as it provides them with real freedom on the evenings when their child or young adult is with Willow Lodge. Moreover, it gives the child or young person a sense of responsibility and ownership of their provision.

A typical after school event, based on a bowling event, would be as follows:

Pick up around 4pm and drive to Goresbrook Leisure Centre. Take part in a game or two of bowling, followed by dinner before dropping off home around 7pm.

## **Avenues**

*Evening Play Scheme/After School Provision for 14-18 year olds (8 places)*

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

Avenues are bidding to undertake the service detailed in C, After School Provision for young people aged 14-18. With this group we would focus on providing both fun and educational activities, centre-based, but with a particular view to accessing local community facilities and engaging in sports and active lifestyles. We would also tie in with activities being run at other resources, such as The Heathway. We would focus on meeting the following outcomes:

- Increased confidence and self-esteem
- Good health
- Enjoyment and Achievement
- Involvement and Inclusion
- Increased social and emotional skills
- Increase in the number of friends a young person has
- Increased independence skills

Bearing in mind the age group that we are bidding to work with, we propose to have a focus on building transition skills too. Such activities that we would propose to run include cookery, arts & crafts, swimming, football, boccia, visiting parks and other local points of interest, massage / relaxation, meals out, computer / Nintendo etc horse riding, cinema, make-up and beauty, zumba/ dancing. We would be looking to prepare a meal most evenings at the service, with the young people themselves being supported to prepare it.

Furthermore, Avenues employ an Inclusive Lifestyles Coordinator whose role is to find ways and opportunities for people to really become active participants in their local communities. We have adopted the "Inclusive and Active 2" strategy

(<http://www.interactive.uk.net/page.asp?section=000100010005> ) which is a London-wide strategy for increasing activity and inclusion in sports for disabled people and have good links with organisations such as Interactive (who promote equality and inclusion in sports in London). We believe all this demonstrates our commitment to inclusive community access. We would utilise the Inclusive Lifestyles Coordinator to help develop community participation.

We specialise in delivering services to Young People with more complex needs, such as challenging behaviours and autism, and would welcome the opportunity to work with this group.

## **PACT**

*Evening Play Scheme/After School Provision for 14-18 year olds*

**Location:** Mencap Hall, Woodward Road, Dagenham and in the community.

**When:** Tuesday 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Our service is specifically designed to support young people aged 14 to 18 with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities, Autistic Spectrum Disorders and other related impairments 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 we use various methods of communication to support young people with LDD or ASD regardless of where they may be placed on the spectrum, their personal circumstances and abilities. We provide early interventions for young people to explore issues that are affecting school work, develop skills, social interaction and develop personal centred plans on how to cope with exam stress, education issues, seek work experience placements and assist them through the various stages of transition as they move from school to college into employment or further education.

The clubs also offer a range of fun social activities from arts & craft and sports to independent living skills such as shopping, cooking, handling money (including preparing for Individual Budgets), travel training and trips out including visits to the cinema and bowling at Goresbrook Park in Dagenham. The clubs are designed to improve confidence particularly in social situations and assist young people with LDD or 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.

### **Banardos**

*Weekend Play scheme/Provision for children aged 6 and under*

**Location:** Ilford (Indigo)

**When:** 10am to 3pm for 8 children per session, 2 days per week during school holidays.

The playschemes will be based at Indigo premises in Ilford, however if preferable we could operate from Barking and Dagenham's Heathway premises.

The playschemes will provide children with the opportunity to participate in a range of fun and stimulating activities which give them a chance to try new things and develop new skills. This includes messy play, cooking, crafts and sensory play, games, drama and story telling, sports etc. The activities will support the development of social skills, self help skills and provide support towards independence. We will organise regular outings into the community visiting the local park, play centre, farms etc. The playschemes will encourage children to achieve by promoting social skills, enabling communication, developing independence skills and promoting positive interaction with peers.

Indigo has a fully equipped and resourced environment for disabled children and provides access to multi sensory rooms and soft play outdoor equipment. Its location is also one of its strengths and is accessible to families and carers of children with disabilities easily by public transport. We have capacity to provide limited transport for playschemes if required but there would be an additional cost.

### **DABD**

*Weekend Play scheme/Provision for Children aged 6 and over*

**Location:** Kingsley Hall, Parsloes Avenue, Dagenham, or The Barking & Dagenham's Disabled Children's Resource Centre, The Heathway, Dagenham

**When:** 9am - 3pm

We are able to provide services for up to 15 Children & Young People on a 2-1, 1-2-1 or 1-2 bases

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, clay working and pottery. 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, swing and gardens, sand and ball pools, 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:** We 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.

The young people using the service will be assessed in co-operation with their parent/carers so that we 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 we actively seek their views in a communication format they can access. During their day the young people with 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.



**MCCH**

*Weekend Play scheme/Provision for Children aged 6 and over.*

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

A service that supports children/young people to play, have learning opportunities, meet and make friends, “chill out”, be supported with home work, in a safe environment. A broad range of fun activities will be offered both indoors and outdoors and a light nutritious snack will be available.

A range of tools individually tailored to each person will be available to promote engagement/development and support each young person in accordance with their wishes, needs and aspirations including accessible skills teaching programmes, support guidelines, health monitoring systems and behaviour support plans. Collaborative working with the child, parents/carers, and school will enhance opportunities to maintain existing skills, and develop new skills as part of on going skills development.



## 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.

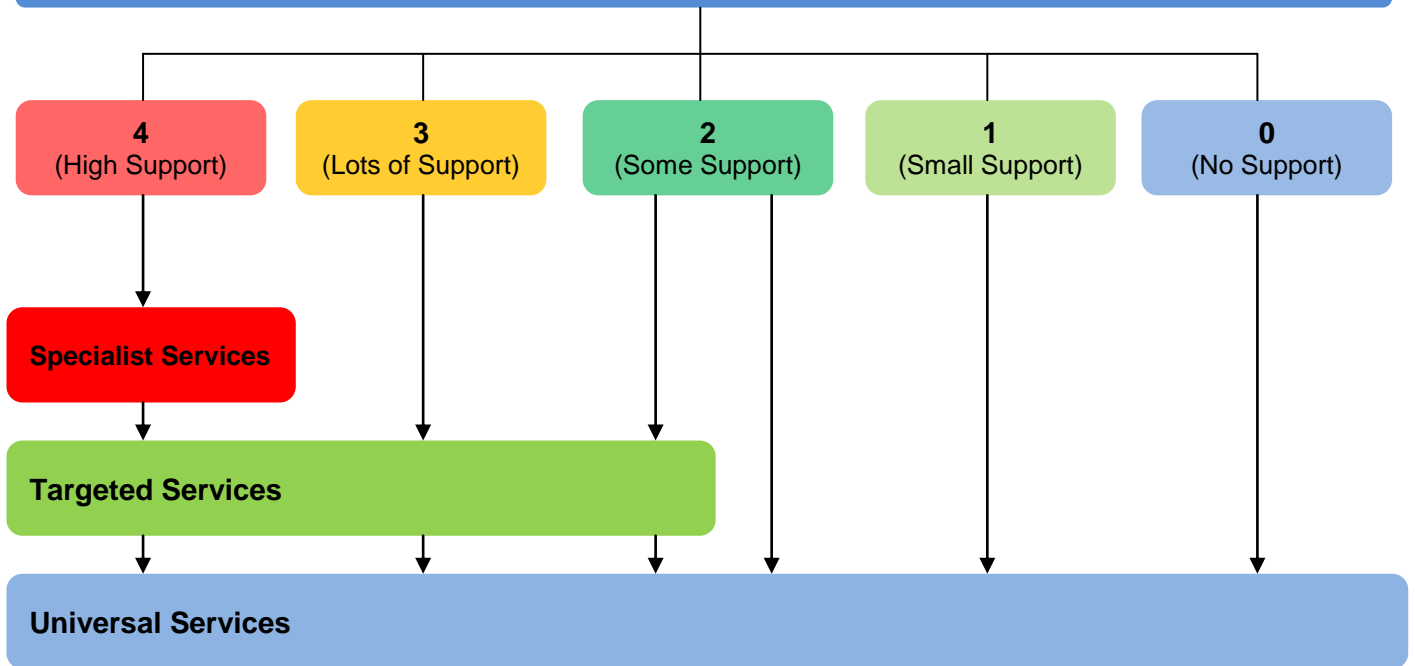
If you have any questions about the Short Breaks Services Statement, Pathways, Resource Allocation Guidance or Eligibility Criteria please contact our Short Breaks Commissioning Manager on 0208 227 3188 to discuss these matters further.

Short Breaks Services – Resource Allocation Guidance

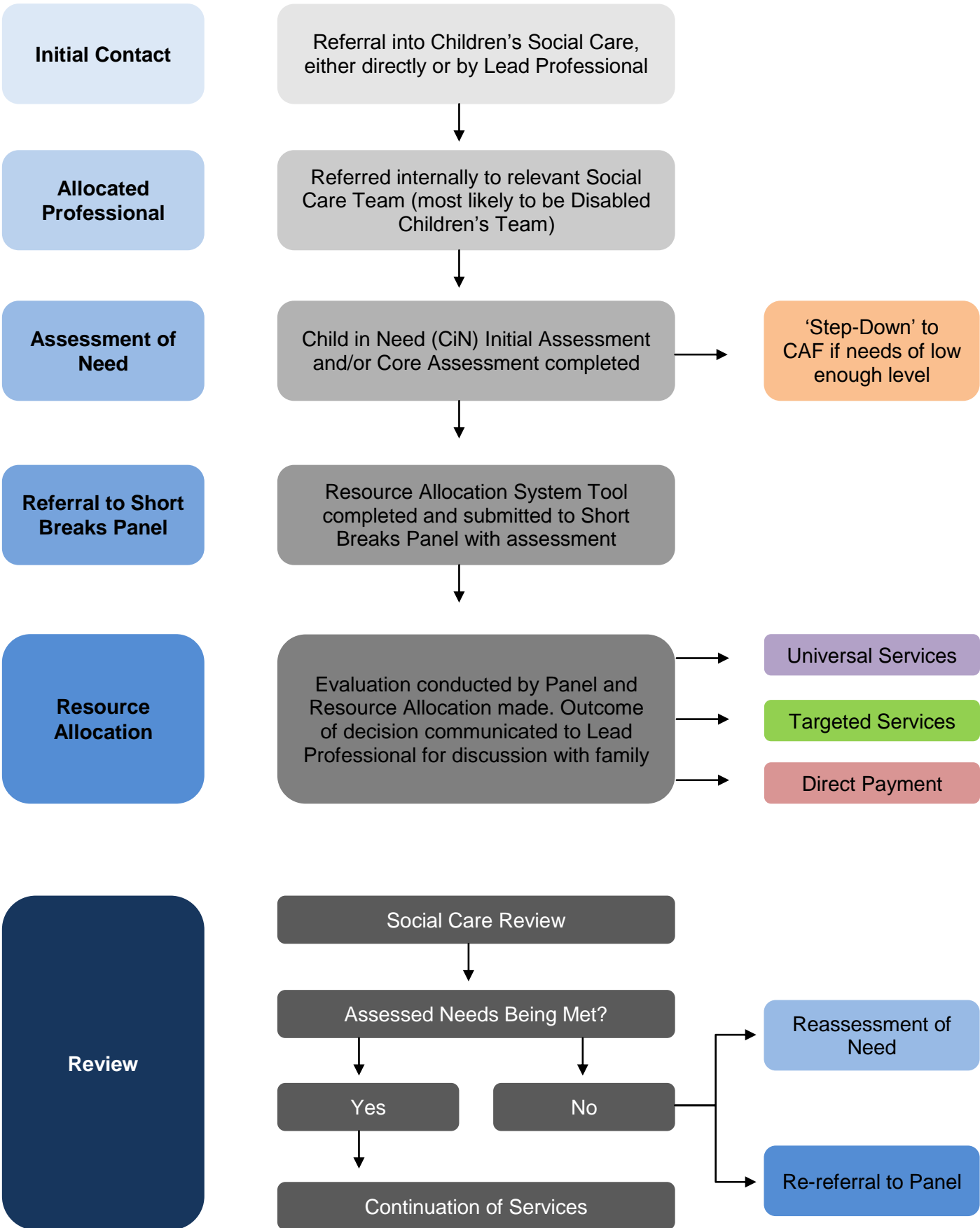
Assessment of Need

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Output of Resource Allocation System (RAS) Tool



**Short Breaks Services – Social Care Pathway**



**Short Breaks Services – Lead Professional Pathway**

