



Short Breaks Statement

For families and professionals who support and care for a child or young person up to the age of 18, who has a disability and lives in the borough of Telford and Wrekin.

Local Offer
for Special Educational Needs and Disability

Discover everything you need to know about education, health and care services in your local area for children and young people with SEND 0-25yrs at
www.telfordsend.org.uk



Welcome to our Short Breaks Statement

In Telford & Wrekin we work together with children, young people and their families to achieve the best possible outcomes in all areas of their life. We believe that with the 'right support at the right time' this is possible. Working together, children and young people with disabilities can and will achieve their full potential.

This Short Break Statement is designed to show how we meet the social care needs of Children and Young People with disabilities in Telford and Wrekin. It shows the levels of support available, who it is available to and how to access it.

It explains:

- What Short Breaks are for children and young people with disabilities
- Who can have a Short Break
- What sort of breaks are available
- How to access a Short Break.

The statement is part of our SEND Local Offer. The SEND Local Offer describes the support available for families in the borough of Telford and Wrekin, who have a child with special educational needs and/or a disability.

www.telfordsend.org.uk



Short Breaks Regulations

The Short Breaks regulations are used to guide Telford & Wrekin Council's Short Breaks Service offer.

The regulations place a duty for all local authorities to produce a statement, to explain what 'Short Breaks services' are available to children with disabilities and their families, and how they could access them. The council has to publish the statement online and review it regularly to ensure that information is up to date.

In summary, local authorities must provide a range of Short Breaks services that are:

- Flexible, reliable and regular to meet changing family need
- Reach groups of parents who may be more difficult to engage
- Build on universal services
- Promote greater levels of confidence and competence for moving towards adult life
- Include: day-time care, overnight care, respite
- Promote participation in activities
- Culturally and age appropriate

Use this link to view the Short Breaks Regulations 2011 in full

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/707/contents/made

The Legal Framework used in this statement:

Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2011

Children Act 1989 (Section 17 (1))

Children and Young Persons Act 2008 Children and Families Act 2014

Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970

Equality Act 2010

NHS Act 2006 (Amended 2012)

Care Act 2014

What are Short Breaks?

Short Breaks are solely available for children and young people with a disability and span a range of activities, care and support options that a child/ young person with disabilities may need.

A Short Break can last from a few hours to a few days, an evening, overnight, a weekend, and school holiday daytime activities, depending on assessed need.

Short Breaks provide an opportunity for children and young people with disabilities to spend time away from their carers, try out new things, have fun and make new friends. Short Breaks can also provide families with a chance to do things together.

What is Disability?

Telford & Wrekin Council uses the legal definition of disability;

A physical and/or mental impairment that has a long term and adverse effect resulting in significant impact on daily living/development of the child/young adult

It includes children who have moderate to severe and profound disabilities. It also includes children who have complex health needs and who may have palliative or life-limiting condition.

The Children's Act 1989 requires all local authorities to establish a register of children with a disability in their area. This is then used for statistical information and to assist service planning to meet the needs of children with disabilities and their families.

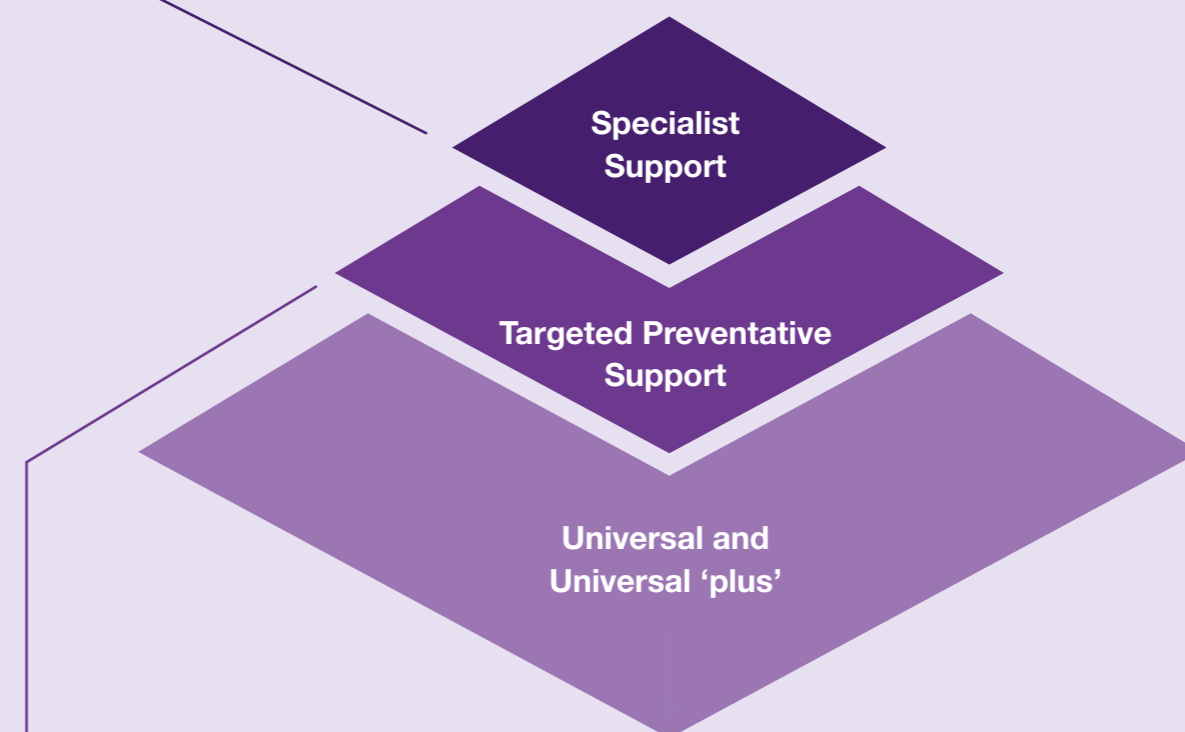
Having a disability or being on the children's disability register does not automatically mean that you or your child need to access social care support, you may instead be signposted to access 'universal services' or targeted and preventative support. This statement is intended to show you what support may be best for you based on your child's needs.

A Tiered Offer of Support

Not all children with disabilities and their families need the same level of support. There are three levels of Short Breaks offers in Telford and Wrekin, matched to the impact of your child's disability on day-to-day life, your child's assessed needs, and each family's individual circumstances.

Severe or Profound

You/your child's assessed needs are severe and profound and have a high impact on daily living and/or development.



Moderate or Severe

You/your child's assessed needs are moderate or severe and have a moderate impact on daily living and/or development.

Mild or Moderate

You/your child's needs are mild and have a low impact on daily living and/or development.

Universal and Universal Plus Level Support

Universal level support is open for everyone to use i.e. leisure centres, cinemas, Scouts and Guides, and should be available to all people. Universal plus is where reasonable adjustments have been made to meet additional needs particularly where disability has a lesser impact on day-to-day life.

Needs

- The child or young person's family feels supported
- The child or young person needs support to build relationships and social skills with others in their community
- The young person needs support to prepare for adulthood.

Service Examples

- Information, advice, guidance
- Community Resources
- Schools
- GPs, Health Visitors, school nurses
- Youth Centres
- Citizens Advice.

Below is a list of some of the local activities and services that are either accessible, or designed for children and young people with disabilities in Telford and Wrekin. These are listed in more detail on the SEND Activities & Events Local Offer page www.telfordsend.org.uk/activities

- Swimming
- Football
- Wheelchair sports
- Cricket and Table Cricket
- Climbing
- Martial Arts
- Club 2000 (multi-activity)
- Special Needs Activity Centre (SNAC)
- Rugby
- Sailing
- Bikes
- Trampolining
- Ice Skating
- Horse Riding
- DISKS Sports club
- Coding club Southwater library
- Brownies, Cubs, Scouts, Guides
- Silhouette Dance
- Creation Station
- Rachel's arts & crafts at Hoo Farm
- PODS Sessions and Trips
- Jungleland sessions
- Pirates & Princesses
- Funky Friday Disco
- PODS Sensory Sessions 0-5's
- Childminders and Nanny's
- Shining Stars 0-5's
- Club 2021 Youth Club

Preventative Level Support

Preventative Level Support is for children and young people where disability has a moderate impact on day-to-day life, such as:

Needs

- The child or young person and their family is isolated
- Caring for the child or young person has a moderate impact on the health (including mental health) of their parent/carer and/or the family unit
- The child or young person needs a moderate level of supervision and care to ensure their safety and wellbeing
- The young person needs additional support to prepare for independence in adulthood.

Service Examples

- Autism Hub
- SEND Local Offer
- Occupational Therapy
- Aids and Adaptation
- PODS
- Independent Living Centre
- Targeted and preventative short breaks activities



Targeted and Preventative Short Breaks Activities

These activities are commissioned by the local authority, specifically designed for children and young people with moderate and severe disabilities who are unable to access universal/universal plus services.

Targeted and preventative short breaks activities includes:

Youth clubs

Youth clubs provide opportunities for children and young people to socialise in a safe environment with support and supervision.

Sports and Leisure

Sports and Leisure provides children with an opportunity to come and get active for a couple of hours in a safe and reassuring environment. Our aim for the sessions is to support children to access a variety of sporting and leisure activities whilst making new friends and supporting their self-esteem and confidence.

Sessions include, but are not limited to:

- Sensory activities
- Basketball
- Football
- Team games
- Swimming
- Skiing and tubing

Arts and Crafts

Arts and Crafts sessions include, but are not limited to:

- Messy crafts
- Sensory jars
- Clay modelling
- T-shirt designing
- Painting
- Paper-mache art

Please use this link to access more information and how to register.

www.telfordsend.org.uk/shortbreaks



Specialist Level Support

The Children with Disabilities Service provides specialist level support for children and young people with severe or profound, complex disability and health needs up to the age of 18 years. The service includes a range of professionals, they are:

- Social Workers
- Social Work Assistants
- Short-Break Co-ordinator
- Direct Payment Officer
- Occupational Therapy Team.

The Children with Disabilities Team work with children and young people where their assessed needs are severe or profound and their disability is significantly impacting on their ability to have opportunities to be safe, develop skills for life and be part of their local community growing up. The specialist support and services are provided for children and young people whose assessed needs cannot be met through universal, targeted or preventative services.

The Occupational Therapy Team provide support with specialist equipment, aids and adaptations to support/improve everyday tasks.

The social workers within the team adhere to the same statutory requirements as other local authority social work teams, as well as further specific criteria for the Children with Disabilities Team. Appropriate referrals to the team include:

- Children with Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy and other physical disabilities that significantly impact on the child's wellbeing;
- Children and young people diagnosed with severe learning disabilities;
- Children and young people with a diagnosis of Autism with associated learning disability which has a significant impact on their communication needs, social and behavioural development;
- Children and young people with severe, profound or multiple disabilities;
- Children and young people with severe global development delay;
- Children and young people with severe sensory impairment; and
- Children and young people with complex physical disability and severe or profound health needs.

The Children with Disabilities Team do not support children whose primary needs centre around emotional/behavioural development and/or mental health, for example some children with Asperger's syndrome, mild or moderate autism or attachment disorder. A Child and Family Assessment will be completed by a social worker to determine unmet needs, the impact of the disability on the child and their family and caring responsibilities of parent/carers. The Assessment will holistically review the needs of the child and family while incorporating individual additional needs as a child with disabilities.

Eligible families will be allocated a social work assistant to work alongside the social worker and family to develop a needs led, outcome based plan of support. The plan can be a combination of support provided in addition to support provided by social care.

Children and young people under Specialist Services are categorised as a Child in Need, Section 17, Children Act 1989 and will be reviewed through a Child in Need Plan to ensure clear identified outcomes are achieved. The Plan will include Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound needs led outcomes. The plan is reviewed through a multi-agency Child in Need meeting to ensure identified needs are being met and outcomes are being progressed in a timely way. The frequency of meetings and visits will be determined by the level of need, which is reviewed jointly by the allocated worker and Team Manager.

Disability Related Benefits

Below is a list of local and national organisations that can provide help and advice regarding accessing disability related benefits:

Citizens Advice

www.citizensadvice.telfordandthewrekin.org.uk

0300 330 1165

Department of Work and Pensions

www.dwp.gov.uk

0800 88 22 00

Contact

www.contact.org.uk

0808 808 3555



Transport

Parents and carers are responsible for transporting their children. Where transport is provided, this will be made clear by the activity provider.

Planning and Reviewing Short Breaks

We use a range of information to plan Short Breaks services to meet the need of local families. We do this by:

- Working together as a Short Breaks forum that includes the PODs parent carer forum, parent carers and young people
- Using surveys, feedback and data to ensure we understand local need and lived experience

This Short Breaks statement will be reviewed regularly in consultation with local families, providers and professionals.

Get in touch with us

We hope you find this statement and the information it contains useful to you. If you have any queries about Short Breaks then please email us at

ShortBreaks@telford.gov.uk



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