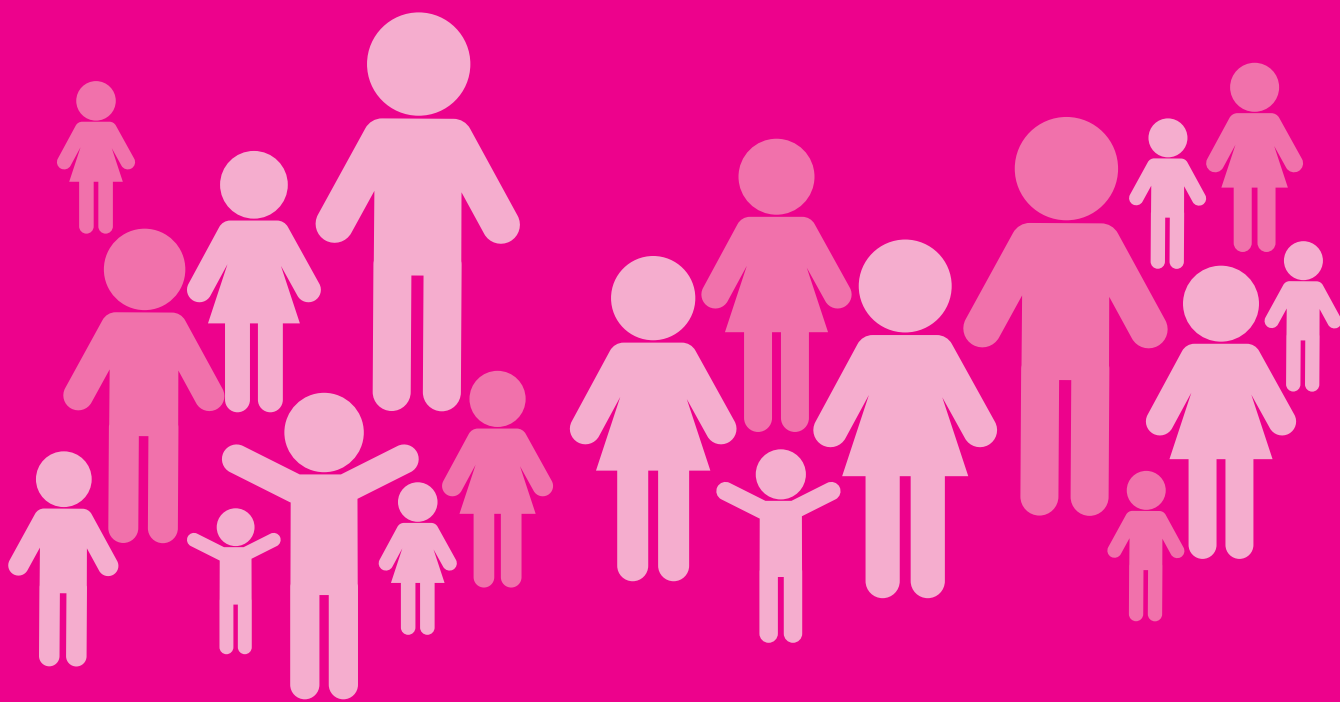


# Disabled Children's Service Short Break Statement 2016-2017



November 2016

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## **What is a Short Break?**

Short breaks come in many different forms. They can last anything from an hour to several days. Short breaks give children and young people the opportunity to have a fun experience with or without their parents or carers.

Examples of short breaks can include:

- Support in the home (day or night)
- Play activities outside of the home
- Services that offer help and support to carers in the evenings or during school holidays

## **What is a Short Break Statement?**

Kirklees Council's Disabled Children's Service have worked in partnership with parents, PCAN (Parents of Children with Additional Needs) and other professionals to produce this Short Breaks Statement. The aim of the statement is to let parents and carers understand:

- who can access short breaks
- what short breaks are available to young people and their families in Kirklees
- which short breaks will best meet their child's needs

We have worked with a wide range of people who look after young people or offer support to young people, to get their viewpoint on what it is that parents need to know about short breaks. The statement will also signpost parents and carers to information we expect to be available for children and families as part of our Local Offer.

(The Local Offer provides information on what services children, young people and their families can expect from a range of local agencies, including education, health and social care. Knowing what is out there gives you more choice and therefore more control over what support is right for your child.)

## **What do we want for children and young people in Kirklees?**

The Disabled Children's Service have five main objectives. We want to make sure that children and young people in Kirklees:

- have the best start in life possible
- are safe at home, school and anywhere else they choose to go
- enjoy learning and are able to reach their full potential
- make friends and are able to take part in activities
- participate fully in education and are given opportunities, where possible, to progress into employment or further training.

## **How can I find out about short breaks?**

There are many ways that Kirklees Council's Disabled Children's Service tells parents and carers about what short breaks are on offer in the Kirklees area. Information about holiday activities is currently posted to around 4,000 families as well as circulated to local support groups for them to promote through their own networks.

For example:

- All Information about holiday activities provided by the Kirklees Council Disabled Children's Service is posted on the PCAN website (Parents of Children with Additional Needs) and included in PCAN's newsletter. PCAN is a group in Kirklees which represents parents and carers of children with additional needs. For information about joining, please visit their website or telephone 07754 102336.
- Kirklees Council regularly sends out information on activities to schools, Children's Centres and local support groups - so it's always worth asking for information from those groups.
- Word of mouth between parents is always important - please feel free to pass on anything you know about to other parents or even to the Disabled Children's Service as we will always try pass information on when possible.

## Which short break best meets the need of my child?

All children should have the opportunity to attend any activity that is happening in their community. Where young people or families face challenges to access these activities they can work with our Inclusion Team, which supports parents and carers to overcome challenges. We do recognise, however, that every child is unique and needs different levels of support. Because of that, we offer three types of short activities, which we describe in more detail on pages 6 to 13.

- **Universal activities** - these are the types of activity that any child, regardless of their ability, might choose to take part in.
- **Targeted activities** - these are for children and young people who want to go along to an activity where the activity provider has an understanding of some of the issues that your child might face when taking part in an activity.
- **Specialist Provision** - these are for children and young people who need a lot of additional support and would be accessed through the Kirklees Council's Disabled Children's Duty and Consultation Team. They can be contacted by telephoning 01484 221000 and asking for Disabled Children's Service.

For information on our 'eligibility criteria', i.e. which children are able to use our services, see our ['Eligibility criteria for social care services for disabled children'](#).

## **How do we know what parents, carers and young people want?**

Kirklees Council's Disabled Children's Service works hard to adjust and improve services to meet the needs of children and young people in Kirklees.

We do that by working closely with parents, carers and young people. This could be talking to them at activities, listening to their feedback and through meetings with groups, e.g. PCAN.

For example, as a result of listening to feedback from parents and young people, some activity providers have been able to put on activities in areas where before there were none. We have also recommended that providers deliver more technology type activities as well as activities aimed at specific interest groups.

We also listen carefully to young people to hear what activities they want to take part in. Young people can have their say on activities through the council's Youth Forum. This way, we can make sure that the money we spend is spent on the type of activities that young people want to take part in. To find out more about the Youth Forum telephone the Kirklees Council's Disabled Children's Service on 01484 221000.

## **What short breaks do Kirklees offer?**

### ***The universal offer***

#### **Kirklees Council Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS)**

Kirklees Council's Integrated Youth Support Service offers opportunities to children and young people in Kirklees and welcomes children with disabilities. For details of activities taking place in your area please ring 01484 221000 and ask the operator to put you through to your local IYSS team. Activities are for children with or without a disability aged between 8-19. Look at individual activity providers for details of age ranges.

#### **Communities and Leisure**

Kirklees Council's Communities and Leisure team create opportunities for people in Kirklees to access a wide range of sport and physical activities. Where people have struggled to access those activities because of their additional needs, they can contact the council's Culture and Leisure team by telephoning 01484 221000.

## ***Our targeted offer***

Many organisations offer targeted activities to children and young people. Some of these activities will be on a week-to-week basis while some offer activities during school holidays. These are for children and young people who want to go along to an activity where the activity provider has an understanding of some of the issues that your child might face when taking part in an activity

Kirklees Council's Disabled Children's Service currently fund free holiday activities for children aged 8-25 with additional needs. This is done in a way in which matches holiday activities funded by the council through the Integrated Youth Support Service who we work closely with.

To help you decide which activity is best for your child please ring the individual activity provider for more information.

Some activities are for children of a specific age. A number of activities are also happy for brothers and sisters to attend as well.

All activity providers welcome calls from anyone interested in attending one of their activities. The best way to find out which activities are suitable for you or your child is to give them a ring.

## **Targeted activities offered through the Integrated Youth Support Service**

The Integrated Youth Support Service offer a wide range of other activities.

### **WACKY (Wild Activities Challenging Kirklees Young people)**

WACKY offers a packed programme of physical, adventurous and creative summer holiday activities for young people of all abilities for example canoeing, archery DJ workshops, circus skills, digital photography and much more.

Have a go at different projects learn new skills, make friends and most important have FUN!

Age range: 13-25  
Location: Mirfield

### **Saturday Live**

Saturday Live gives young people the opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills, and go on trips while taking part in a wide range of activities such as healthy cooking, arts and crafts and sports projects, karaoke, Wii, PS2, pool, table tennis and lots more.

Age range: 13-25  
Location: Batley

### **Central Stars**

Central Stars gives young people the opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills, and go on trips while taking part in a wide range of activities such as healthy cooking, arts and crafts and sports projects, karaoke, Wii, PS2, pool, table tennis and lots more

Age range: 13-25  
Location: Huddersfield HD1

### **Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE)**

The DofE in Kirklees is for all young people aged 14–25. They welcome young people of differing abilities and their activities and facilities have been planned to include everyone. So whether it's rock climbing, archery, canoeing, drama, dance, music, cooking or conservation everyone can go along and have a go.

The value of a DofE Award to a young person cannot be underestimated. The personal and non-competitive nature of a DofE programme means that all young people can equally be proud of achieving a certificate based on their own achievements, personal challenge and journey.



Every section of a DofE programme gives young people an opportunity to be independent, self-sufficient and to be challenged as an individual.

There are four Open Award Centres in Kirklees which run on an evening and are open to anyone

Age range: 14-25  
[www.kirkleesdofe.org](http://www.kirkleesdofe.org)

### **Crows Nest Adventure Playground Dewsbury**

Can Play, Will Play!

Play session for young people aged 8-12 with additional needs Crow Nest Park Adventure Playground, Heckmondwike Road, Dewsbury.

Sensory play, natural play, sports and games, sand and water fun, giant games, pool and table tennis, campfire cooking, gardening, art and crafts, den building, circus skills

**To discuss any activity offered by the Integrated Youth Support Service please ring 01484 221000 and discuss with the operator which service you would require.**

**Here some examples of some of the targeted activities we have helped to fund. The activities vary from year to year. We produce a full list of activities available regularly throughout the year. For more information or to book a place, contact the activity provider directly.**

## **Bumpy**

Open all year round from 8.30am to 4.30pm (4pm at weekends). Booking is necessary for individual lessons and groups.

Offers a wide range of experiences to young people of all levels of ability, from Pilot Buggy rides in the mud to riding a motorbike if able. Bumpy gives young people of all abilities the opportunity to experience a unique multi-sensory experience as well as the chance to ride a motorbike under expert tuition.

Age range: 13-25  
Location: Birstall  
Telephone: 01924 470432  
[www.bumpy.org.uk](http://www.bumpy.org.uk)

## **Total Sports**

A multi sports programme which is split into several sessions so that young people can freely wander from one activity to the next, each session being a different mainstream sport. There are also many specific games developed by Total Sports to enthuse and challenge young people.

Age range: 8-25  
Location: Dewsbury and Huddersfield  
Telephone: 07773 636728  
[www.tsssport.com](http://www.tsssport.com)

## **Huddersfield Support Group for Autism Play Scheme**

Huddersfield Support Group for Autism (HSGA) offer a holiday recreational programme and deliver activities such as cooking, painting, sports, games and toys for free choice play as well as offsite activities. A high number of volunteers complement staffing levels which enables the group to offer 1-1 supervision of young people while on the activity. HSGA also operate as a support group for parents and carers of children with ASD.

Age range: 8+ dependant on activity  
Location: Huddersfield area  
Telephone: 07980 286524  
Email: [sophiasaleemhsga@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sophiasaleemhsga@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.autismhuddersfield.co.uk/](http://www.autismhuddersfield.co.uk/)

## **Compass Bridge**

Compass Bridge offer exciting activities such as boating, pony trekking and rock climbing as well as fun craft sessions using wood to with making bird boxes, planters and feeders out of recycled wood.

Age range: 8-25

Location: Elland but will try to offer transport from local pick up points

Telephone: 01422 311299

[www.compassbridge.co.uk](http://www.compassbridge.co.uk)

## **Spark Skills**

Previous activities have had a specific focus on the Paralympics and Arts and Crafts. Spark Skills have built on the inspiration young people gained from the opening ceremony of the Paralympics games and now offer activities in a youth club type of environment.

Age range 8-25

Location: Batley

Telephone: 07563 556227

## **Sprout (Delivered by Growing Works)**

Sprout want to strengthen family bonds in a way that traditional respite/short break hasn't. They offer outdoor gardening, den building, wildlife investigation and cooking fun. Brothers and sisters are also welcome so as to enable families to have stress free fun.

Age range: dependant on activity

Telephone: 07982 920160

[www.holmevalleygardeningnetwork.org](http://www.holmevalleygardeningnetwork.org)

## **Specialist provision**

Some children and young people need more support than is available through universal and targeted services. Specialist services give families and young people the opportunity to access short breaks. Specialist services are accessed through the Kirklees Council Disabled Children's Service. Parents are able to ring the Disabled Children's Service Duty and Consultation Team and speak to a duty worker for a discussion about their child's needs.

They may be able to support with an assessment, which will further explore how your child's disability affects them, and your family. The assessment can highlight areas where additional support is needed and identify how this could be provided, such as through specialist services. A small number of young people may be given support to stay overnight somewhere other than their home. Support in and out of the home might also be an option, such as help for a child to access social opportunities.

To access the Disabled Children's Duty and Consultation Team or discuss any of the following Specialist services, please ring 01484 221000 and ask for The Disabled Children's Service.

Alternately you could telephone the Gateway to care team on 01484 414933 (24 hour 365 day a year).

As well as short break activities, there are also a wide range of specialist services available in Kirklees.

### **Active Social Care Limited**

Active offers a range of out of school clubs, exclusively for children and young people aged five to eighteen with additional needs across Kirklees.

### **Carers Trust Mid Yorkshire**

Carers Trust Mid Yorkshire provide trained staff to support young people and carers in their own homes or at an activity for up to 7 hours per month.

### **Adaptation and Equipment Team**

Kirklees Council's Disabled Children's Service Adaptation and Equipment team can give advice around how to make it easier for young people to use the facilities where they are getting their short break.

### **Foster care**

Foster carers provide overnight stays for children and young people in their own home. The amount of overnight or day care with a foster carer will be dependent on your assessment.

## **Direct Payments**

Direct Payments empower parents, carers and disabled children to take control of how and when they use the support they need.

Direct Payments can be used by parents, carers and young people to allow them to independently employ workers through the Direct Payment they receive. Alternatively, you can choose to use the council's Independent Living Team (01484 22100) or an independent Brokerage company.

For more information about Direct Payments please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-direct-payments>

or contact: Gateway to care

Telephone 01484 414933, or Text "Gateway" and your question to 07781 482931

## **Orchard View**

Orchard View is an 8 bedroom Residential Short Breaks Children's Home and provides overnight stays to young people aged 7 to 18 who would prefer to receive overnight stays where other young people are present. The amount of overnight stays you can have will depend on your assessment.

## **Young People's Activity Team (YPAT)**

The Young People's Activity Team provides leisure and recreational activities for children and young people aged 5 to 18 years who have a wide range of disabilities. The amount of time you can access at YPAT is determined through an assessment.

## **Other support within Specialist Provision**

### ***The Child in Need Review Officer***

The Child in Need Review Officer will review your short breaks at least once a year to ensure you are receiving the right level of support. Families can request a review or a further assessment of needs at any time. Each young person will be given the opportunity to attend their review and offer their thoughts about the services they receive.

We will also ensure that our Short Breaks Services Statement is published on Kirklees Council's website [www.kirklees.gov.uk](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk) and reviewed annually with families to make sure it is meeting the needs of parents, carers, children and young people throughout Kirklees.

### ***Transitions***

We want to make the move from Children's Services to Adult Services as positive and easy as possible. We have been able to support activity providers to offer opportunities to young people aged 18-25. We have also ensured that good links have been made between the specialist adult pathway team and workers at the children's team.

### ***Our Social Work Team***

The social work team will work with parents, young people and other professionals such as health, education and others to ensure that families are receiving the correct level of support that they need.

## **PCAN**

PCAN is the independent, parent-led forum in Kirklees for all parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs aged from birth to 25 years. It is free to join, and they welcome all parents or carers, whether you are just beginning to become aware that your child or young person may have additional needs, or if they have confirmed diagnosis or disability.

PCAN offer a very comprehensive directory of activities of support groups – to download, visit [www.pcankirklees.org](http://www.pcankirklees.org) and follow the link to 'PCAN pages'.

## **Listening to you**

As we want to continually improve our services to families and young people, please feel free to call us with any suggestions as to how we can improve. Although we may not be able to respond to every suggestion, we can put you in touch with other parents through the PCAN group who will be able to help give you a voice.

If you require further information about how the Kirklees Short Breaks Statement has been compiled please contact:

Disabled Children's Service  
Telephone 01484 221000

Disabled Children's Service:

Telephone: 01484 221000

For more information on activities in Kirklees visit:

[www.pcankirklees.org](http://www.pcankirklees.org)

