

Information about Social Care Support and Short Breaks for Disabled Children



Brighton and Hove
Children and Young People's
TRUST



Integrated Child Development & Disability Service Brighton & Hove Children and Young People's Trust

Who Are We?

We are an Integrated Child Development and Disability service with professionals from Health, Social care and Education. The majority of our services are based at Seaside View Child Development Centre. This means that assessments and relevant information are shared across professionals to ensure that we coordinate our help to children and families. Some of our family support services are spread across the city in different locations as outlined below.

We have a range of services which are focused primarily on supporting families to care for their children where possible within their home in their local community.

The present criteria to access the Social Care and Occupational Therapy Service is for

“children with a severe learning and or physical disability, and children with moderate learning difficulties, where it is assessed that their needs in terms of challenging behaviour/ mental health issues can be met only through the input of specialist services”

– for example any child who attends Hillside or Downs View Schools. Children who attend other schools may also be eligible for support from our service if it is felt that their needs require specialist support.

Wherever possible we try to help disabled children access mainstream inclusive services but acknowledge some need specialist services.

The families of children with sensory needs, such as hearing loss or sight impairment should make contact with the Sensory Services Team.

Presens is our pre-school service and is based at Jeanne Saunders. They provide a range of day care and Outreach services to support children in early years settings.

We also have contracts with voluntary agencies and provide financial support to enable services to be provided by them for example Amaze, Crossroads, Children's Society, Barnardos and Extratime.

Our services provide support, advice and practical help to disabled children and young people and their families working in partnership to plan the most appropriate services.

We aim to provide a service that does not discriminate on any grounds. We recognise that there can be many forms of prejudice and that for some families this can create additional stress. We strive to achieve equal opportunities for all disabled children and young people.

In order to receive a service from any of the support services outlined in this leaflet you can either contact us directly or you can ask a professional involved with you and your family to refer on your behalf. When we receive a referral we carry

out an assessment of your child's needs which takes into account their overall circumstances.

We liaise, with your permission, with other professionals involved with your family and we try not to ask you for information you have already given to another professional. Sometimes families have more than one disabled child or the carer may have particular needs. We have a duty to consider the needs of brothers and sisters of disabled children particularly if they are undertaking a caring role. As far as possible we consult directly with disabled children and young people who should always remain at the heart of all planning.

We also look at how carers are managing because we recognise that looking after a disabled child can put families under pressure. We know that children and young people tell us that they want to stay living at home leading normal lives and as far as possible this is what we try to achieve.

Once we have completed an assessment, which you will be fully involved with, you will be asked to sign this to show that you agree with it. You will be encouraged to contribute to the assessment and it should identify the needs of all family members and highlight things that are working well together with areas where additional support may be needed. This assessment is then taken to the multi-agency resource panel where we try to allocate resources as fairly and as effectively as possible.

We believe that most children are best cared for within their families in the local community so that they can go to local schools and be cared for by local health services.

We try to work with families so that residential care is not necessary, however, sometimes short breaks or residential care are an important source of support.

Outreach

(01273) 295153

The Outreach Team, based in Portslade, provides a family support service. Experienced workers provide disabled children and young people with individual support, enabling them to access social, leisure and recreation opportunities in their local community. Families receive a short break from caring at weekends, after school times and in the holidays. Referrals are via social work assessment.



Direct Payments

(01273) 295171

Direct Payments can provide parents of a disabled child, or disabled young people aged 16 – 18, with cash to buy in services directly instead of the Council providing that support through their own services. Payment provided is based on assessed need. The Federation of Disabled People (an Independent Advice Service) is available to support families in managing the Direct Payments scheme and recruiting carers.

Cherish

(01273)295192

Cherish provides two term time venue based Youth Clubs for learning disabled teenagers ages 12 – 19 as well as Easter and summer holiday schemes based within the community. Parents and young people may self refer, or Cherish can receive referrals from professionals. Cherish also provides a term time Club for learning disabled Young Adults aged 19 – 25.



Residential Services

Residential options include:

Brighton & Hove Link Plus (Family Based Care)

(01273) 295179

Link Plus is a partnership between Brighton & Hove Children and Young People's Trust and Barnardos, based in Portslade. The service offers family-based short



Drawn by Francesca (Link Plus carer's daughter)

breaks for disabled children and young people and for a limited number of children full-time care. Placements range from a few hours day-care, through to overnight stays, weekend/week breaks and shared care. Link Plus recruits and supports people who can offer good quality care to disabled

children in a safe and welcoming home environment.

In addition, our Home Support Service (sitting service) caters not only for the disabled child in their home but also for their siblings. Home Support workers are employed through Barnardo's, on an as and when basis, with relevant experience and training to provide care in the child's home or out in the community.

We are also in the process of setting up a Contract carer scheme, which will provide overnight care to disabled children and young people with autism and/or challenging behaviour and complex health/medical needs.

You can access the service via the Child Development and Disabilities Team if a child is severely disabled or moderate disability with challenging behaviour/mental health needs. All referrals for children with a moderate disability should go via mainstream social work services in the first instance.

Tudor House

(01273) 296190

Tudor House in Brighton is a residential home offering short breaks for up to five young people at a time, between the ages of 10 and 18, who have a severe learning disability and who may also have physical disabilities.

The house is fully equipped



to meet the needs of a range of young people. This includes overhead hoists, a sensory room and fully accessible vehicle.

The staff team works closely with parents and other agencies to set clear aims for each child. We offer a high level of support (1:1 staffing) to ensure all individual needs are met.



Drove Road

(01273) 295530

This residential home is located in Portslade. It provides residential short breaks on a planned basis for children aged between 10 – 18 years who have severe learning disabilities. The home has six individual bedrooms and in addition two young people live there full time. There are a range of activities at the home including a trampoline, sensory room, soft play and garden equipment.

Teenage Scheme: A teenage group meet fortnightly. This service is for disabled young people and offers opportunities to gain independence skills, mix with people of a similar age and enjoy community activities.

Choice and independence, social and leisure opportunities are actively promoted for all young people in our care.

Transition Planning

Transition planning is about how we work with disabled young people and their families to plan for their needs as they become adults. Our aim is to put the needs of the young person at the centre of all planning and to have them directly involved and consulted.

Transition planning begins at a young person's year 9 Educational Review. The Directorates of Education & Lifelong Learning and the Children and Young People's Trust have a legal responsibility to work together. We have a Transition Team who oversees that process providing information, options and support.

Aiming High

Aiming High is a Government initiative to increase the availability and range of short break services for disabled children and young people.

As a result of research in Brighton & Hove telling us what young people and their families want from their short break services we have launched a number of new services, such as an exciting new holiday scheme developed by Extratime and Hove YMCA, and a befriending scheme from the Children's Society. Both these services are aimed at secondary school aged young people.



Spending on Direct Payments has also been increased, and funds have been allocated to a number of small community groups for new equipment.

Keyworking

Parents of disabled children have been telling us for some time that they would like their services to be better co-ordinated, and for them to have one key person who knows all about their child.

To address these needs we are introducing a Keyworking scheme in Brighton & Hove for those children with complex needs or multiple disabilities. This will give families a named person who is the first point of contact, advice, support and information for parents and professionals. Referral to the scheme will be through one of the professionals working with the family, e.g a health visitor or speech & language therapist.

Further Information

For information about local and national resources, parent led groups and benefits please contact the Social Work Team or the Duty Social Worker.

Amaze is an excellent source of local information. They also manage the COMPASS which is a register of disabled children in Brighton & Hove. By registering you will ensure that you receive regular information and you will also be eligible for the COMPASS leisure card providing discounted tickets and leisure opportunities around the city. For more information contact Amaze on (01273) 772289.

The Family Information Service (FIS) is a free, impartial service giving detailed information and advice on child care as well as general information on a wide range of services for children and young people aged 0 – 19 years and their families in the City. The At Home Childcare Service brings together qualified child carers and parents/carers who are looking for more flexible, home-based care. Telephone (01273) 293545.

The National Council for Disabled Children are very helpful on a range of topics affecting disabled children and their carers. Telephone 0207 843 6000.

Further information is available at
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk

Comments, Compliments and Complaints

Please let us know if you have found our services to be useful, or if we could improve them. If you are unhappy with something we have done, you can ask to speak with a Duty Senior or the Service Manager.

If we cannot resolve the problem, then we do have a complaints procedure. Leaflets about this are available at all our offices. Alternatively, you can contact them directly by telephoning 0800 072 9960 or writing to:

Customer Service Manager
Children & Young People's Trust
Brighton & Hove City Council
FREEPOST SEA2717
Brighton BN1 1ZZ

This information is available in large print, Braille and audio tape on request.

Someone you know may need our help. If their first language is not English, they may benefit from an interpretation of this leaflet. For more information please contact Sussex Interpreting Services (01273) 702005.

If you have an emergency between 5.00 p.m. and 8.30 a.m. Monday to Friday or any time during weekends or Bank Holidays contact the Emergency Duty Service on telephone number 07699391462

Translation? Tick this box and take to any council office.

Perkthim? Zgjidhni kete kuti dhe cojeni ne cilendo zyre keshilli. Albanian

ترجمة؟ ضع علامة في المربع وخذها إلى مكتب البلدية. Arabic

অনুবাদ? বক্সে টিক চিহ্ন দিয়ে কাউন্সিল অফিসে নিয়ে যান। Bengali

需要翻译? 请勾选此框并送至任何理事会的办公室。 Chinese

ترجمه؟ چهارگوشه را نشانه گذاری کرده و به یکی از انجمن های مشاوره رجوع کنید. Farsi

Traduction? Veuillez cocher la case et apporter au Council. French

Tradução? Coloque um visto na quadrícula e leve a uma qualquer repartição de poder local (Council Office). Portuguese

Tercümesi için kareyi işaretleyiniz ve bir semt belediye bürosuna veriniz Turkish

other (please state)

This can also be made available in large print, Braille or on audio tape

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Seaside View Child Development Centre
01273 265825

Occupational Therapy Service
01273 295825

Sensory Needs Service
01273 293610

Emergency Duty Team
07699 391462

Presens
01273 294944

Children & Young People's Trust Information
01273 296000

