

Children and young people attending special schools

A separate offer is in place for those children and young people attending a special school. Please contact your school for further information. If your child attends a school outside Hampshire, we will make the offer available to attend a community facility near where you live. If you would prefer to use services offered by your child's special school, we will try to provide financial support.

Support to families

We hope that this offer will remove barriers to the participation of disabled children and young people in activities which every child should enjoy. At the same time, parents and carers will have well-earned breaks from caring.

"I just want to do everything that everybody else does"

Claire, Going Places
Every Disabled Child Matters

To find out more about short breaks available near you, contact:

- The Children's Information Service (for information on Ofsted registered childminders, nurseries, pre-schools, out of school clubs and holiday schemes) on 0845 603 5620 or email: childcare@hants.gov.uk.
- The AHDC Team (for information on sports clubs, activities centres, and AHDC in Hampshire) on 01962 846399 or email: aiminghigh@hants.gov.uk.

For a copy of this publication in another language or format (e.g. large print or in an audio format) please contact 01962 845375 or email: childrens.services.enquiries@hants.gov.uk

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The Short Break Offer 2009
For parents or carers of children and young people (aged 0-19 years) on higher rate Disability Living Allowance (DLA)



Hampshire
County Council

Background

- Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) is a government-led transformation programme designed to improve the lives of disabled children, young people and their families.
- You have told us that one of the key things you would like is more opportunities for short breaks, with a wider range of options to choose from.
- Funding allocated to Hampshire County Council will be used to provide the additional things needed for disabled children and young people to access a wide range of short breaks. This could include a local drama club or a registered childcare provider.
- The idea is to allow disabled children and young people to have the same experiences and chances as every child.
- Depending on circumstances, AHDC money could be spent on additional staff, staff training or equipment; essentially whatever is necessary to allow the participation of your child in any activity.

What is a short break?

A short break is a positive activity for a child or young person and an opportunity for a parent or carer to have a break from caring. It will last up to three hours for an evening or weekend play scheme, and up to six hours per day for a holiday play scheme.

What is the 'minimum offer'?

For those receiving the higher rate of DLA, it is 19 evening or weekend activity sessions and five days summer holiday care scheme, each year.

The idea of the short break offer is to support providers and enable them to accommodate disabled children and young people. For example, this could be by providing funding to pay for extra staff or training.

The parent or carer of a disabled child or young person will access the service in the usual way and pay the same amount as any parent or carer. However, any *extra* funding required to enable a disabled child or young person to participate will be provided.



What kind of schemes can funding be used for?

It may be an inclusive activity (for example, the summer play scheme at the local school or leisure centre), or a specialist scheme for disabled children and young people. You know best what your child will enjoy.

How will I access this offer?

You can approach schemes directly if there is one you would like your child to attend. The organisation you choose is able to apply for extra funding from the AHDC Team to pay for extra staff, more training and specialist equipment or resources, to allow disabled children and young people to take part in their activities. Many will have been notified of this offer or they can contact the AHDC Team (see overleaf) for an application form.

If you are unsure about which schemes are available and would like more information, please contact us (see the contact details overleaf).

Proof of entitlement

You will need to show a service provider evidence of your successful DLA claim, such as your letter of entitlement.