

Community Short Breaks Statement

This information is for families living in Derby who have a child with a disability. This statement includes information about:

- Our current Community Short Breaks offer
- How to access Community Short Breaks
- Eligibility criteria for Community Short Breaks

Why do we need a Community Short Breaks Statement?

This Statement relates to Community Short Breaks as part of a wider offer for children with a disability across Derby City.

Local Authorities are required by law to publish a statement about short break services for children with disabilities and their families. This is under the Short Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children, Statutory Guidance 2011. There is a wide range of activities provided by organisations in the community which all children can access such as Scouts, Brownies, sporting clubs and various youth clubs. These clubs may set their own criteria, for example the age of the children that each club/activity is suitable for. Children with disabilities should be able to access these activities if they want to. The people who run these activities have a legal duty to make reasonable adjustments to make sure children with disabilities can access them.

To access universal services, parents and carers should contact the provider directly. A list of these activities and organisations can be found on Derby's SEND Local Offer. [Derby's SEND Local Offer - Derby City Council](#)



What are Community Short Breaks?

Community Short Breaks provide children with disabilities the opportunity to experience an activity that is fun, stimulating and enjoyable, independent from their parents and carers, which aims to reduce their social isolation and help their personal and social development.



Community Short Breaks also give parents and carers a necessary and valuable rest from caring responsibilities, allowing them to re-charge their batteries, spend time with other family members and provide space to do other things.

What's on offer?

There are two types of Community Short Break – a **Provider Service** and a **Grant**.

Provider services

Community Short Breaks services are delivered by specialist providers. These providers arrange specialist activity groups which are designed to be stimulating, enjoyable and fun and help promote friendships and peer support. They offer an exciting choice of varied activities at several venues across the city. Special events are arranged throughout the year too, celebrating religious and cultural holidays, local carnivals and national events. Day trips are also available during the school holidays, some of which are suitable for the whole family to enjoy. Provider services are available after school, at weekends or during the school holidays

How much does it cost?

Support workers are provided free of charge. However, some activities will have additional costs which families will need to pay for.

A list of our current Providers

<p>Umbrella</p> <p>50 hours per year</p>	<p>https://umbrella.uk.net/</p> <p>Umbrella offer sessions at their two venues in Derby. Additional day trips in the community are offered during school holidays.</p> <p>For ages 5+ years</p>
<p>Fun-Abil8y</p> <p>50 hours per year</p>	<p>https://www.stjamescentrederby.co.uk/fun-abil8y</p> <p>Fun-Abil8y offer group sessions during the week and school holidays. Sessions last for 2 hours.</p> <p>For ages 3+ years</p>
<p>Endorphins</p> <p>50 hours per year</p>	<p>https://endorphins.uk/</p> <p>Endorphins offer sessions on Saturdays. Each session last 5 hours. Endorphins offer some additional holiday sessions too.</p> <p>For ages 5+ years</p>
<p>Community Links</p> <p>50 hours per year</p>	<p>https://www.cl-support.com/</p> <p>Community Links offer sessions on selected Saturdays throughout the year. Each session lasts 4 hours. Community Links do not offer support on weekdays or during the school holidays.</p> <p>For ages 5+ years</p>

Community Short Breaks - Grant

The Community Short Breaks Grant is a cash payment made directly to the parent or carer of a child with a disability. This cash payment allows families flexibility, choice and control to choose their own short break activity, such as family days out; school clubs; additional nursery hours; horse-riding; swimming lessons, etc.



The current Community Short Break Grant Award is £560 per child for a period of 12 months. This is paid directly to parent/carer's nominated bank account. Parents and carers will be required to sign a Grant Agreement and submit evidence of expenditure, including completing a spending form and submitting receipts.

The Grant is **not** a Direct Payment. However, some families choose to use the grant to make 'top up' payments to a support worker where they have an existing privately funded arrangement. If you wish to use the grant for this purpose you must provide Derby City Council with evidence that you have employer's liability insurance; the support worker has been issued with an employment contract; a satisfactory DBS check has been undertaken, and that you are paying Tax/NI owed to HMRC. This is so Derby City Council can satisfy itself that recipients of the Grant are complying with employment law.

Who can apply for a Community Short Break (eligibility criteria)

Your child will have a diagnosed disability. We support children with disabilities who are not receiving any other similar support to a Community Short Break; therefore, we cannot offer a service to any child who already accesses activities in the community, or receives any other service delivered by The Light House. This also includes Direct Payments that have been awarded for social activities.

How do I access Community Short Breaks?

You will need to ask a professional who knows your child to complete an Early Help Assessment form. A professional may be a:

- school teacher
- community nurse
- health visitor
- paediatrician
- occupational therapist
- physiotherapist
- doctor (GP).

The Early Help Assessment form and guidance can be found on the Derby City Council website www.derby.gov.uk or you can request by emailing us at VCM-IDCS@derby.gov.uk or by telephone on 01332 956457. You must provide evidence of diagnosis by including at least one of the following with the Early Help Assessment:

- A psychiatric report
- A psychologist's report
- Confirmation of diagnosis from a paediatrician
- A completed Education Health Care Plan

If we do not receive this evidence, we will not be able to consider your request. You may include any other relevant assessments you think will support the referral.



Residential Short Breaks

There is provision for residential overnight short breaks in Derby. You can access information about this service here: [What services do we offer? - Derby City Council](#)