

Targeted Short Breaks

Local Authorities must provide a range of 'short breaks' to enable carers of disabled children to have breaks from caring. These should include:

- a) Provision which will enable disabled children to participate in educational and recreational activities,
- b) Provision of day-time care for disabled children in both their own homes and elsewhere,
- c) Provision of overnight care for disabled children in both their own homes and elsewhere, and
- d) Emergency care, for example, due to illness in the family.

The responsibilities described in c) and d) are delivered through the Children and Families Service as the specialist short break offer via Beechside short break respite provision.

The responsibilities described in a) and b) are together referred to as the 'targeted' short break offer. This includes:

1. Targeted 1 offer, covering (a) above
2. Targeted 2 offer, covering (b) above
3. Pre-paid cards (which can be used for a or b above)

The Portsmouth targeted short breaks offer refers to;

- a) open access recreational activities in the format of the Inclusive Holiday Playscheme, Teenage Holiday Programme, Teenage Project and the Portsmouth Autism Support Network activities (referred to as Targeted 1)
and
- b) day time care in the format of the Specialist Holiday Playscheme.

Families of children with an EHCP and attending a special school or in receipt of full time support in a mainstream school, are entitled to a Personal Budget which is provided in the form of a pre-paid card. This can be used for any short break activities the parent feels best meets their child's and family's needs as part of the targeted offer.