



Bolton Short Breaks Statement

2021 - 2022

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What are short breaks?

Short breaks are an essential part of a continuum of support for parent carers of children and young people with disabilities.

They offer parent carers a break from their usual caring routine and responsibilities. They offer disabled children and young people an opportunity to enjoy new experiences, make new friends and develop new skills.

Universal short breaks

These are available through resources in the local community that anyone can access. For example;

- Brownies
- Guides
- Drama group
- Dancing groups
- Sport groups
- Chess club
- Computer club
- After schools clubs
- Swimming
- Art and craft groups
- Church, mosque, temple, synagogue activities for children
- Cadets

Try an on line search for the above activities for local contacts (leisure centres, community centres, faith groups, voluntary organisations, general access council services, schools)

The organisation who provides the activity may charge while others may be free.



Targeted short breaks

Targeted short breaks are resources that have been designed to meet the specific needs of a particular group of disabled children. They are often funded by grants from the Council or are registered charities. No assessment is required from Childrens Services, although some organisations will have their own criteria.

There is a fee for most of these services although some may be subsidised.

AFC Masters Football Club

AFC Masters is a football club run for children and adults with a disability. The FA Standard Chartered Club runs every week with a focus on freindship and enjoyment.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.afcmasters.com

Follow on Facebook and Twitter

Day Trippers

Daytrippers (Bolton) is a parent and carer led registered charity that provides mutual suport and companionship, via days out and other activities for familes that have children with disabilities.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.daytrippersbolton.org.uk

call: **07742 693 157** or **07941 747 920**

Email:

enquiries@daytrippersbolton.org.uk

Breaking Barriers

Breaking Barriers is a registered charity. It is our aim to raise awareness and challenge the barriers to inclusion in society for disabled children and young people aged 0-25 years old.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.breakingbarriersnw.com



Bolton Lads and Girls Club

The Club is for young people aged 8-19 years old (21 for a young person with a disability) and runs seven days a week.

Our Junior Club is open to all young people aged 8 to 12, while 12 to 19 year olds go to Senior Club. There's also our Holiday Club, a place to go for more fun and activities when school closes for the summer holidays.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.boltonladsandgirlsclub.co.uk/young-people

www.boltonladsandgirlsclub.co.uk/young-people/inclusion



Bolton Disability Sports Association

We are a voluntary organisation working to provide quality Sporting and Recreational Activities throughout Bolton for people with disabilities and their siblings. We run sessions in the following areas: Archery / Cricket / Dance / Cycling / Football / Gymnastics / Handball / Trampolining / Swimming and more. Please contact us if you would like any more information

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

Tel: 01204 411672
secretarybdsa@hotmail.co.uk

ZACS Youth Bar

Zac's Youth Bar is run by The Sycamore Project (registered charity) providing support and activities for children and young people aged 8 to 18 from Bolton, with a particular focus on the South (Farnworth, Kearsley/Stoneclough and Little Lever).

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.zacsyouthbar.co.uk

Bolton Octagon

Little Bridges 8-14yrs and Bridges 16-30yrs

The Bridges programme enables young people and adults with additional needs and learning disabilities to take part in drama and performance opportunities at The Octagon Theatre.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.octagonbolton.co.uk/get-involved/young-people/bridges/

Wheels for All

Wheels for All Bolton is affiliated with Cycling UK and provides people of all abilities with the chance to enjoy cycling. They were established with the help of Cycling Projects through the Wheels for All. The Wheels for All program is a nationally recognised program that offers cycling opportunities to people with additional needs by giving access to adaptive cycles in a supportive and comfortable setting.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.cyclinguk.org/cycle-centre/bolton-arena

Kidz2gether

A Bolton based charity supporting children affected by autism and autistic spectrum disorders.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.kidz2gether.org.uk/

Reach Northwest

REACH Northwest is a voluntary community group that supports autistic children and their families. We create individualised support packages to meet the whole family's needs.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.reachnorthwest.org

Bolton Bullets

Power Chair football club

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.boltonbullets.webs.com

Wave Adventure

We are a Bolton Charity who are passionate about the outdoors and introducing people to healthy new activities, Wave Adventure organise events for individuals or groups of all ages and abilities.

To find out more...
Check the Local Offer

www.waveadventure.org.uk

Specialist short break services

Universal and targeted services are your first options for a short break.

We recognise however that there will be some children who, even with the best efforts of the children themselves, parent carers and service providers, are not able to have their needs met within universal or targeted services. It is a legal requirement for each Local Authority to offer specialist short break care in these circumstances.

What the law says

Schedule 2 of the 1989 Children Act states that a Local Authority must offer, so far as is reasonably practicable, a range of services which is sufficient to assist carers to continue to provide care or to do so more effectively. Local Authorities must provide Short Breaks services for carers of disabled children to enable them to continue to care for their disabled child and to participate in everyday activities. They must provide a range of:

- Day-time care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere
- Overnight care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere
- Educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes
- Services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays

Short breaks are to be used as a preventative measure to maintain children living with their siblings and family long-term and should not just be available to a few families in crisis.

Who can access a specialist short break?

Specialist short break services are provided to support children in need who have severe or substantial disabilities,

A severe or substantial disability has a significant impact on one or more of the following areas

- Physical ability
- Communication and understanding
- Awareness of risk and danger
- Behaviour
- Independence



These arise from one or more of the following:

- A severe or profound learning disability
- A severe physical disability
- A substantial degree of visual impairment/moderate and severe hearing loss
- A complex Autistic Spectrum Condition with severe learning difficulty
- A complex medical health condition

Any request for a specialist short break would be followed up by an assessment and allocation process.

We appreciate that many families will read the description above and not be certain whether specialist short breaks are for them. In such cases you are encouraged to either speak to your social worker, your Lead Professional or call / e mail the Children with Disabilities Duty Social Worker on **01204 337414** / **CWD@bolton.gov.uk** for a discussion.

These are difficult decisions, and every family is unique, so you are encouraged to speak to someone personally.

What happens if I request an assessment for specialist short break care?

Your request will be followed up by a Social Worker from the Children with Disabilities Social Work team. If you already have an allocated Social Worker from another team then they would complete the assessment.

The social worker will complete a Children and Families Social Care Assessment, alongside a Resource Allocation System form, known as a R.A.S.

The social care assessment is designed to be holistic and to allow the Social Worker to bring together information from family, health, educational and social settings, to build a picture of the strengths and needs of your child and your family.

Then R.A.S. is a separate document that will indicate the level of short break care that you are entitled to and indicate the options available to meet that need. Your preferences are included in this document.

The R.A.S is presented to a group of managers from social care and health. This is a meeting to share what resources we have available and to give you some options.

What specialist services may be offered?



Bolton council has local services designed to offer a range of specialist services and support. These include:

Family based short break care, day and overnight care, in the home of an approved short break carer	Bolton Shared Care
Sessional support – sitting, befriending, social groups	Bolton Shared Care
Short break support within the family home and in the local community for children with complex health needs	Bridges Family Support team
Domiciliary care for children with complex health needs	Bridges Family Support team (please note domiciliary care is not assessed using the Resource Allocation Assessment)
Specialist after school groups and school holiday provision. Play Is for All holiday club	Bolton's 5 – 19 play and youth service
Overnight residential short break care for young people 8-18 years old with complex health and behavioural needs	Purpose built short break bungalows Avondale and Trackside Approach
Self-directed short break care by employing a personal assistant as an alternative to the above services	Direct Payments

Things change for children and their families, and the assessment is reviewed annually to make sure that the support provided continues to be the right support for you. If your circumstances change significantly within the review period, you are entitled to ask for your review to be bought forward to consider the impact of these changes to your family situation.

How to request an assessment for a specialist short break

If you already have a Social Worker, or a lead professional, speak to them in the first instance, and they will be able to carry out or request an assessment on your behalf.

For everyone else, call / email the Children with Disabilities Duty Social Worker on **01204 337414** / **CWD@bolton.gov.uk** for a discussion and to make your request.

The Transition Team

Please refer to the Preparation for Adulthood section of The Local Offer

Disabled children and young people – SEND Local Offer (bolton.gov.uk)



The Record

It is a statutory requirement that each Local Authority maintain a “register” of children and young people with a disability. Bolton’s register is called “**The Record**”.

This record helps us to have a better insight into the number of children in Bolton for whom we need to make plans. It is vital for our transition and adult services and can influence decision making and spending. Inclusion on “The Record” is voluntary and you can register online by following the link

[The Record \(Children’s Disability Register\)](#)

– Bolton Council



Other support, guidance and advice

Short breaks are only one part of the continuum of support you may need as a parent carer of a disabled child.

You may require help with education, health, and other aspects of social care

Please use the link to the Local Offer to seek further information

[Disabled children and young people – SEND Local Offer](#) (bolton.gov.uk)

If you prefer to talk to someone...

Contact numbers/ e mail addresses...

Parent Information and Support Worker. Please e mail with telephone contact and Elaine will get back to you email: Elaine.nuttall@bolton.gov.uk

Children With Disabilities Duty Social Worker. Please e mail with telephone contact and the duty social worker will get back to you. email: CWD@bolton.gov.uk or ring **01204 337414**

This statement has been produced as an interim statement as short break services begin to recover following the lock down on 2020/21 to restrict the transmission of COVID 19 Corona Virus.

The statement has been produced following consultation with representatives from

- Parent / carers
- Childrens Health Services
- Transition Services
- Children with Disabilities Social Work team
- Education Service

The author of the statement is Minaxi Patel, Head of Service, Placements and Resources, Bolton Council Childrens Services.

