

# **Short Breaks Duty Statement**

## **Wigan Council**

**April 2017**

## 1. Background & Introduction

The Children and Families Act 2014 takes forward the Government's commitment to improving services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

Local authorities **must** provide a range of short breaks for disabled children, young people and their families, and this short breaks duty statement details the local range of services and how they can be accessed, including any eligibility criteria (The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2011)

Local Authorities also have a duty to provide a range of short breaks for disabled children, young people and their families and must publish a Local Offer which sets out in one place, information about provision we expect to be available across Education, Health and Social Care for children and young people in the area who have special educational needs and disabilities.

The Local Offer has two key purposes:

- To provide clear, comprehensive, accessible and up-to-date information about the available provision and how to access it
- To make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by directly involving disabled children and those with SEN and their parents, and disabled young people and those with SEN, and service providers in its development and review

### 1.1 Definition of Disability (In accordance with the Equality Act 2010)

A person is disabled if:

- they have a physical or mental impairment
- the impairment has a substantial\* and long-term\* adverse effect on their ability to perform normal day-to-day\* activities

\* *'substantial' means more than minor or trivial;*

\* *'long-term' means that the effect of the impairment has lasted or is likely to last for at least twelve months 'normal day-to-day activities' include everyday things like eating, washing, walking and going shopping'.*

### 1.2 Definition of Short Breaks

Short breaks are intended to give primary carers of children and young people with disabilities a break from their caring responsibilities. Short breaks should equally provide children and young people with disabilities opportunities to have fun, make friends and develop skills. Short breaks come in a variety of

formats and each one can last from just a few hours to a few days, depending on the type of provision and the needs of the child and their family

Short Breaks can occur during the day, during the evening, overnight and at the weekend and can take place in the child's own home, the home of an approved carer, a residential or community setting. Short Breaks should be used routinely to help parents and carers to maintain and improve the quality of care they naturally wish to provide and should not just be used as a crisis intervention.

### **1.3 Wigan Council's Vision for Short Breaks**

*'To develop a range of quality short breaks that children and young people with disabilities and their families want; short breaks which enable them to have the same experiences, opportunities and aspirations as other children, young people and their families. This will be achieved by having a skilled and competent workforce and working in partnership with other agencies'*

## **2 Consultation**

As part of the Deal for Children and Young People, Wigan Council want to work closely with children, young people and their families so that we are able to improve outcomes and quality of life for children, young people and their families and ensure that we build resilience in our communities. We know that we can do this and that it is the right thing to do because we have great aspirations for our children, young people and families.

We would like to use this Duty Statement as part of our consultation and review of short breaks service. Wigan Council are looking at which services are popular with you and your child / young person and how these opportunities meet your needs. We also want to know if there are any gaps that we may need to address or if there is a need for any other services that would prevent you from reaching crisis point. Please describe the service and the benefits it may deliver.

You can send your feedback to Gaynor Waddington either by e-mail or post using the details below:

Gaynor Waddington  
Lead Officer – Public Health  
Start Well Team  
Life Centre South  
College Avenue  
Wigan  
WN1 1NJ  
[g.waddington@wigan.gov.uk](mailto:g.waddington@wigan.gov.uk)

### 3. Outcomes

In consultation with children and young people and their families, the following outcomes have been identified as being important:

#### 3.1 Outcomes for Children and Young People

- Children and young people with a disability have opportunities to enhance their social networks and friendships
- Children and young people with a disability have opportunities to enjoy themselves, have new experiences and fulfil their potential

#### 3.2 Outcomes for Parents

- Parents have opportunities to have a break from their caring role
- Parents feel confident that the people providing the short breaks are capable of meeting their child's needs
- Parents are better able to manage the issues associated with caring for a child or young person with a disability

## 4 Needs Assessment

Wigan Council has developed a Disability Data Hub which has replaced the Children's Disability Register. Registration on the Data Hub is voluntary and it contains basic information on children and young people with a disability aged 0-19 years. As of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015, there are over 1000 families registered on the Children's Disability Data Hub.

According to Census Data, 2011 23.8% (n= £75,600) of the population in Wigan is aged 0-19 years. Based on the assumption that 1.2% of the child population is a child / young person with a disability that requires support to access universal services and or a targeted / specialist response, 907 are classed as the target population for short breaks.

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, 317 children and young people with a disability accessed a short break. This is 35% of the target group. Table 1 below shows a breakdown of age and gender of those 317 children and young people who accessed short breaks between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

**Table 1**

Males 0-5	5	Female 0-5	3
Males 6-10	74	Female 6-10	19
Males 11-15	88	Female 11-15	28
Males 16-19	43	Female 16-19	35
Males 19-25	10	Females 19-25	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97</b>

The information highlights that predominantly more males than females accessed short breaks during 2015 / 2016. National data tells us that the prevalence of disability is higher among boys than girls and local data shows that significantly more boys have a statement of special educational needs than girls.

**Table 2**

<b>Ethnicity Category</b>	<b>Number</b>
Black African	1
Any other Black background	1
Any other Mixed background	3
White/Asian	4
White/Black Caribbean	2
Info not yet obtained	1
Other Ethnic Group	2
White British	300
Any other White background	1

Census Data suggests that 95% of the child population in Wigan are White British. A similar picture is presented with regards to the disabled population (see table 2) as the majority of children and young people accessing short breaks are White British (83%) Wigan Council is committed to providing short breaks that are culturally appropriate and through the commissioning process, aims to ensure that services meet the racial, cultural, linguistic and religious needs of children and young people with disabilities.

The table below shows the percentage of children and young people from each special school in Wigan accessing short breaks. 54% of children accessing short breaks attend the boroughs special schools and 25% attend mainstream schools. The remaining children are either under school age, attend out of borough placements, college, alternative provision or are home educated. Please note a number of children and young people have no recorded 'base' on our system.

<b>School Name</b>	<b>Number of CYP on roll between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015</b>	<b>Number of CYP accessing short breaks between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015</b>	<b>Percentage of CYP on roll accessing short breaks between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015</b>
Hope	199	64	32%
Landgate	74	23	31%
Rowan Tree	102	31	30%
Oakfield	166	43	26%
Willow Grove	55	7	13%
Newbridge	80	4	5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>25%</b>

The table below shows children and young people accessing short breaks and the locality they live in. The information demonstrates that the majority of children and young people accessing short breaks live in Locality 1 whilst there are notably fewer children and young people accessing short breaks living in Locality 2. This is also illustrated in diagram 1 below.

**Diagram 1**

Locality		Number accessing short breaks
1	Standish, Shevington, Aspull, New Springs, Whelley, Wigan Town Centre, Ince, Scholes, Worsley Mesnes, Hawkley Hall, Goose Green, Winstanley, Highfield, Orrell, Billinge, Pemberton	140
2	Hindley, Hindley Green, Abram, Platt Bridge. Ashton, Bryn	46
3	Golborne, Lowton, Leigh, Atherton, Tyldesley, Mosley Common	124
	Outside area/Invalid postcode/Moved out of Borough	7



## 4.1 Type of Disability

It is difficult to obtain an accurate estimate regarding the types of disability due to the varying sources of data available, the lack of a consistent definition and the different categorisations of disability.

The table below shows data from Wigan Council's One System on primary disability

<b>Disability by Type</b>	<b>Number of CYP</b>
ADHD	8
Asperger's Syndrome	5
Autism	104
Cerebral Palsy	12
Chromosome Disorders	6
Downs Syndrome	23
Epilepsy	2
Learning Disability	87
Multiple Disability	5
Physical Disability	13
Other	52

## 5. Access

### 5.1 Public Facilities

In consultation with parents and carers, a need was identified for appropriate toileting facilities and disability specific play equipment across the boroughs parks. In response, Wigan Council commissioned the construction of a number of hygiene suites and installation of play equipment.

For more information, please click on the following link - <http://www.wigan.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/BE75658C-6F6A-493E-8819-31C09E760854/0/AccessibleplacesA5v2.pdf>

## 5.2 Transport

Wigan Council recognises that transport can be a barrier to accessing short break services for some children and young people. Work is on-going to determine how we can resolve this issue whilst keeping costs to a minimum and ensuring that it is offered fairly but not unnecessarily.

## 6. Continuum of Provision

**Short breaks form part of a continuum of services, which support children and young people with disabilities and their families. Short breaks are provided to give:**

1. Children and young people with a disability have enjoyable experiences away from their primary carers, thereby contributing to their personal and social development and reducing isolation
2. Parents and families a necessary and valuable break from caring responsibilities

The table below shows the level of need and the type of support that maybe appropriate to meet that need

Level of Need	Low	Medium	High
<b>Needs of child / young person</b>	The child or young person has some additional needs as a result of their disability but this does not prevent them from making friends and accessing social opportunities	The child or young person has additional needs as a result of their disability and needs some support to help them make friends and access social opportunities. Sometimes they may need to access specific activities designed to meet their needs	The child or young person has significant and or multiple needs as a result of their disability and need a high level of support to enable them to make friends and have social opportunities
<b>Needs of parent</b>	The needs of the child / young person are impacting on the parent but they are able to maintain the level of care they naturally wish to provide. Occasionally parents need support but they know how and where to get this, using resources available to them such as wider family or the community.	The needs of the child / young person are being met but at detriment to the parents physical and or emotional health. Parents need some support to maintain the level of care they naturally wish to provide	The needs of parents are significant and there is a risk of family breakdown. Regular support is needed to maintain the level of care that parents naturally wish to provide.
Level of Support	No Support	Some Support	Exceptional Support
<b>Examples of services</b>  Please note these are examples only and some services	From football teams to youth clubs via arts, dance, drama and more.  There is lot's to do for young people in Wigan Borough. Simply visit: <a href="http://www.wlct.org/young-">http://www.wlct.org/young-</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leisure for All</li> <li>• Duke of Edinburgh</li> <li>• Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles targeted leisure and sport</li> <li>• School holiday programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ladies Lane overnight</li> <li>• Crossroads Care</li> <li>• Home care</li> <li>• Direct Payments</li> <li>• A Personal Budget</li> </ul>

<p>may change as a result of changes in demand or need</p>	<p><a href="http://people.linconline.linconline.htm">people/linconline/linconline.htm</a></p>	<p>(delivered by special schools)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding available for mainstream schools to support CYP to access extra-curricular activities</li> <li>• Parent Support Service (Embrace)</li> </ul>	<p>offer for those children and young people who are eligible for an EHC Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing Care</li> </ul>
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## 7. Personalisation

There are a number of ways in which personalisation is being developed. These include:-

- Person-centred approaches where disabled children, young people and their families are put at the centre of processes, enabling them to express their views, wishes and feelings and be included in decision making
- Personalising the support that children, young people and their families receive by working in partnership with services across Education, Health and Social Care
- Funding mechanisms through the use of Direct Payments and/or Personal Budgets
- Brokerage support - to support families to develop a personalised and creative Personal Support Agreement which describes how their indicative personal budget will be used to meet their agreed outcomes

### 7.1 Direct Payments

At present, Direct Payments are offered through the Targeted Disability Team (Disability Social Work Team) and through the Education, Health and Care Pathway as part of the Personal Budget offer.

With regards to the Targeted Disability Team, where it appears that a child or young person has additional needs which are not being met through existing services, a Child and Family Assessment will be completed by a qualified social worker, addressing the dimensions of the Assessment Framework. The assessment will identify the support required to meet the needs of the child or young person and their family and at this point, a Direct Payment will be offered instead of arranging for services to be provided.

With regards to the Education, Health and Care Pathway, once a child or young person has been deemed eligible for a Personal Budget, they will be given the option of taking this as a direct payment.

Prior to making a Direct Payment, Wigan Council needs to be satisfied that:

- the person is capable of managing a Direct Payment
- the person has capacity to consent to the making of Direct Payments to them
- the welfare of the child or young person in respect of whom the service is needed will be safeguarded and promoted by securing the provision

## **7.2 Personal Budgets**

Personal Budgets have been introduced as part of the Children and Families Act 2014. A Personal Budget is an allocation of money to support a child or young person's needs as specified in their Education Health and Care Plan. Young People and parents of children can request a personal budget once Wigan Council has confirmed that it will prepare a draft Education, Health and Care Plan. For those who have an existing plan, a Personal Budget can be requested at the annual review.

Depending on the needs of the individual and local eligibility criteria, the scope of the budget will vary. At present, a Personal Budget may consist of elements of funding from Education, Health and Social Care. In the main this will be from :-

- Element 3 (top-up funding) for Education
- Continuing Care (CC) for Health
- Specialist provision as assessed by the Targeted Disability Service (TDS) for Social Care

In order to determine the amount of a personal budget, a Resource Indication System (RIS) is being developed. The tool which will be used to assist in developing the system is a Resource Indication Questionnaire (RIQ).

Personal Budgets can be managed in a number of different ways:-

- a direct payment, whereby a cash payment is made to purchase and manage your support
- support arranged by Wigan Council and/or Wigan Clinical Commissioning Group
- a third party arrangement, where money is paid to an individual or organisation to manage the funds on your behalf

There is also an option to have a combination of the above mechanisms.

## **8. Short Breaks Services in Wigan**

Listed below are the services that Wigan Council either directly provide or commission providers to deliver on their behalf. It is a requirement of Wigan Council

that all staff are appropriately trained and have an up to date Disclosure and Barring Service check in place.

Most of the services listed do not require any form of assessment to access them however; there are some that require a Social Work assessment. The services that require an assessment are intended for those children and young people with the greatest level need who require on-going social work intervention (please refer to the table on pages 8 and 9)

### **8.1 Crossroads Care**

Crossroads have staff that can support children and young people in the home or in the community. If the child / young person wish to access activities whilst in the community, the family are required to finance these. This service can only be accessed via a Social Work assessment.

**Contact:** Children's Duty Team on **01942 828300**

### **8.2 Duke of Edinburgh Award - Embrace Wigan & Leigh**

Embrace Wigan & Leigh run the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme which gives young people aged 14 to 19 years with a disability an opportunity to achieve Bronze, Silver or Gold awards. The awards are split into four sections and include: Expedition (this is a 3 night residential), Physical, Service (which is about giving something back to the community) and a Skills section.

The activities aim to provide young people with an opportunity to meet regularly with their peers, to learn and achieve new skills and contribute to the community. The award is delivered by trained members of staff and supported by volunteers. Sessions take place Wednesday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm (term time only) and are based at Spring View Community Sports.

**Eligibility:** Young people aged 14-19 years with or without a disability

**Cost:** £2 per hour  
Residential – Parent contribution £150

**Contact :** Lynne Hamnett  
Embrace Wigan & Leigh  
81 Ribble Road, Platt Bridge, Wigan, WN2 5EG  
**01942 233323**

### **8.3 School Holiday Activities - Embrace Wigan & Leigh**

Embrace Wigan and Leigh deliver a school holiday programme of activities for young people aged 14 to 19 years with a disability. Activities are developed in consultation with young people and their families. The dates, times and venues of these activities may vary so please contact Wigan and Leigh Embrace directly.

**Eligibility:** Young people aged 14-19 years with a disability

**Cost:** £2 per hour

**Contact :** Lynne Hamnett  
Embrace Wigan & Leigh  
81 Ribble Road, Platt Bridge, Wigan, WN2 5EG  
**01942 233323**

#### **8.4 Leisure for All**

Leisure for All offers a team of trained and experienced staff to support children and young people with disabilities aged 3 to 19 years, to access a wide range of leisure activities across the borough. Activities include regular groups, one off activities and residential holiday breaks. The service is delivered all year round, days, times and venues may vary. Please contact Leisure for All directly for information.

**Eligibility:** Children and young people with a disability aged 3-19 years

**Cost:** Regular activities - £2 per session per hour  
One off activities and residential breaks vary and are based on the actual cost of the activity

**Contact:** Kelly Piper  
Special Educational Needs & Disability Team  
617 Liverpool Road, Platt Bridge, Wigan WN2 5BD  
**01942 487150**

#### **8.5 Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles**

Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles provide targeted leisure and sporting activities for children and young people with a range of disabilities. Regular term time activities include: Multi Sports, Dance, Multi Skills, Rebound therapy and Wheels for all. All sessions are delivered by suitably qualified and experienced sports coaches.

**Eligibility:** Children and young people with a disability aged 5-19 years

**Cost:** £2 per hour

**Contact:** Rachael Darling - Disability Sports Coordinator  
Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust, Sports Development Unit  
Robin Park Arena, Loire Drive, Wigan, WN5 0UH  
**01942 404982**

#### **8.6 Ladies Lane Residential**

Ladies Lane provide overnight stays for children and young people who have severe learning disabilities and some of whom may have complex needs. There are 5 beds available at Ladies Lane and most children and young people stay between 1 and 4

nights consecutively, to ensure fair access to services. This service can only be via a Social Work assessment.

**Contact :** Children's Duty Team  
**01942 828300**

## **8.7 Home Care**

Home care services are for people who need help with personal care such as washing and dressing, assistance. This service can only be via a Social Work assessment.

**Contact :** Children's Duty Team  
**01942 828300**

## **9 Statement Summary**

9.1 The Short Break Service Statement will be available on Wigan Council's Local Offer website. The statement will be advertised and a link provided in the Children's Disability Newsletter.

9.2 This statement will be monitored on a quarterly basis using short break information that is routinely collected by the Local Authority. The statement will be reviewed on an annual basis in consultation with stakeholders to inform the commissioning process and to ensure that the services we provide continue to meet need.

## **10. Contacts**

Please note that the information provided is correct at the time of publication however it could be subject to change. Please contact 01942 486140 for any up to date information you may require.

If you have any suggestions or comments regarding this Short Breaks Service Statement, please email Gaynor Waddington at [g.waddington@wigan.gov.uk](mailto:g.waddington@wigan.gov.uk).

If you would like to be involved in opportunities to shape services, please contact our parent participation coordinator, Lisa Aldred on 01942 233323.