



**0-25
Together**

0-25 Together Services

Disabled Children, Young People and their Families

Eligibility for Short Breaks and Social Care Support



Hertfordshire

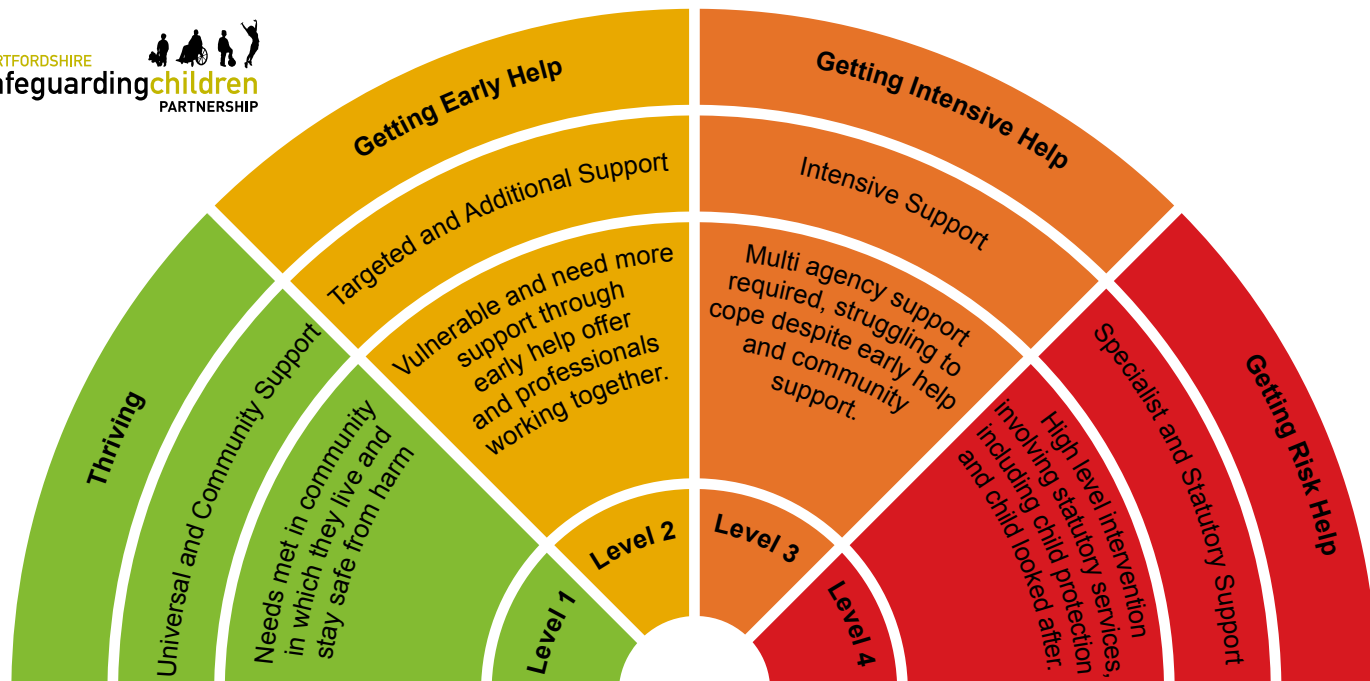


Introduction

Disabled children and young people have the same rights as everyone else. Hertfordshire Childrens Services want to be sure that they grow up with the right support that will give them the same opportunities as other children, including accessing activities in their community so that they are supported to lead fulfilling lives.

The 0-25 Together Service work with Disabled Children, Young People and their Families to make sure that we understand the things that are working well as well as the areas where support or services may be required. This service was designed with disabled people in mind recognising that some people will need support into adulthood. When young adults turn 18 we will support them to access adult services if this is something they would benefit from, this assessment will be determined by a different framework which is provided by Care Act (2014).

Our approach to understanding Disabled Children & Young People's Needs.



The legal definition of a disabled child is described within the Children Act (1989). Disabled Children and Young People have needs that go beyond those of a non-disabled child of the same age and may require lifelong support in the future from statutory adult services. Hertfordshires' Childrens Services are fully described within our [Continuum of Need Document](#), the basis of our support offer are captured in the diagram above.

Disabled Children and their Families are offered a range of support and services. Our offer is designed to respond to the differing needs of Children, Young People and their families across Hertfordshire.



SEND Community Activities Directory

[The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) Community Activities Directory](#) promotes a wide range of community activities for families and young people with SEND, a comprehensive resource for families and professionals. Tailored for disabled Children and Young People aged 0-25 and their families, this is a valuable tool for finding local activities and support groups in the community.

The directory supports disabled Children, Young People and their Families to discover, engage and participate in a wide range of activities. Some activities will also include discounts for families registered on our [Herts Card - additional needs database \(previously HAND\)](#)

Short Break Local Offer

You may be entitled to access up to 40 hours per year, of activities if you:

- Live in Hertfordshire
- Are aged between 5-19 Years old (until the summer holiday of the year that the young person turns 19, if in full time education) with SEND.
- Receive middle or higher rate of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or any Personal Independence Payments (PIP), or
- Have a letter from your GP, your schools Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-Ordinator (SENDSCO). Evidence that your child has a formal diagnosis will not be required, just evidence that their needs are of the level to require specialist support to access community resources or short break opportunities available to other children.



Sometimes, disabled Children, Young People and their Families need access to more than 40 hours. If you think this applies to your circumstances, you can contact 0-25 Together who will listen to you and understand whether or not you might benefit from an assessment. To find out more about the SBLO offer click here [\(Short Breaks\)](#).

Support through assessment

Under the definition of disabled children in the Children Act 1989, all disabled children are 'children in need' and are entitled to an assessment. If an assessment of a child or young person's disability is likely to lead to lifelong support from statutory social care services, early help and social care funding support will be offered as follows:

- Our framework includes a range of opportunities available to disabled children and their Parent / Carers based on assessed and eligible needs
- If assessment identifies need at level 1 on the needs grid below, then information, advice and guidance will be offered to support access to universal services. These young people would be automatically entitled to

our Short Break Local Offer [Short Breaks](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/short-breaks) ([hertfordshire.gov.uk](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk))

- If assessment identifies need at level 2 or more on the needs grid below, Early Help support will be offered for the local social care short break offer at an enhanced level which may include Direct Payments. This will be called a Short Breaks Plan.
- If, following assessment for level 3 services, the outcome determines that services at level two (Short Breaks Plan) are able to meet the identified needs, then this service level will be offered.
- If assessment identifies need at levels 3 or 4 on the needs grid below social care support will be offered to address assessed, eligible needs and will typically be supported with a Child in Need Plan.

Level 1

Understanding your Needs

General Position

Child or Young Person requires support to broaden life experiences and/or promote wellbeing within the in family.

Disabled Child's Assessed Need

Child or Young Person's needs limit their participation in community activities, and they would benefit from accessible social and leisure activities.

Siblings Assessed Needs

Child or Young Person's needs are restricting sibling's opportunities and/or sometimes impacts wellbeing.

Parent/carers Assessed Needs

Child or Young Person's needs are impacting on parent's personal or social lives and/or sometimes impacts their wellbeing.

Meeting your Needs

Available Local Support

- Information, Advice and Guidance
- Community Resources
- Schools
- GP and Health Visitor
- Youth Centre's
- Family Centre's
- Services for Young People
- Herts Help
- District Council Services including Housing
- SEND Community Activities Directory

Level 2 - Early Help support

Understanding your Needs

General Position

Child or Young Person requires support to prevent further impairment of their health or development and/or improve wellbeing within the family.

Disabled Child's Assessed Need

Child or Young Persons needs results in them being unable to participate in any community activities which leaves them socially excluded.

Siblings Assessed Needs

Child or Young Persons needs significantly restrict sibling's personal or social lives and/or frequently impacts their wellbeing.

Parent/carers Assessed Needs

Parents need to provide significant care to other dependents who would otherwise be at risk OR child's needs are significantly impacting on parent's personal or social lives.

Meeting your Needs

Available Local Support Level 1 support plus:

- Short Break Local Offer
- Enhanced Short Breaks (Above 40 hours)
- Direct Payments to achieve specific outcomes
- Preparation for Adulthood Supports

Level 3 - Early Help/Social Care support

Understanding your Needs

General Position

Child or Young Person is very vulnerable to risk of significant impairment of health or development OR family are at risk of not being able to provide care in family home.

Disabled Child's Assessed Need

Child or Young Person level of need results in significant and lifelong impact with eligible need for personalised support as they prepare for and become adults.

Siblings Assessed Needs

Child or Young Persons needs are significantly impacting on health, wellbeing, and development of siblings.

Parent/carers Assessed Needs

Child or Young Persons needs met but at significant cost to their Parent/Carers physical or mental health or wellbeing OR serious risk of family breakdown.

Meeting your Needs

Available Local Support Level 1 & 2 support plus:

- Homecare Services
- Overnight Short Breaks
- Specialist Day Supports

Level 4 - Social Care support

Understanding your Needs

General Position

Child or Young Person is facing immediate risk of harm or impairment which might directly affect child's growth, development, physical or mental well-being OR family and their wider community are unable to provide care in the family home.

Disabled Child's Assessed Need

Child or Young Person essential care or medical needs or need for emotional development and stimulation cannot be met without the provision of personalised support services.

Siblings Assessed Needs

Child or Young Persons unmet needs are severely impacting the welfare or wellbeing of their Sibling without the provision of personalised support services.

Parent/carers Assessed Needs

Neither child's nor parent's essential needs are being met without the provision of personalised support services.

Meeting your Needs

Available Local Support Level 1, 2 & 3 support plus:

- Accommodation Based Services over 70 nights.

Getting In Touch

We understand that needs change overtime. These needs will be considered in reviews and reassessment as appropriate. Families might also contact us to ask for a reassessment when their needs change significantly.

Tel: 0300 1234043

Email: 0-25_central@hertfordshire.gov.uk





Working together for safe, independent and fulfilled lives
for Disabled Children, Young People and their Families.

