

## Do you need information, advice or support?

### Contact Parent Voice

- **Western hub** (New Forest, Test Valley, Eastleigh and Winchester)  
Telephone 023 8072 1206
- **South East hub** (Havant, Gosport and Fareham)  
Telephone 01329 823140
- **North and East hub** (Basingstoke, Rushmoor, Hart and East Hants)  
Telephone 01256 472767
- **Information line**  
Telephone 0844 257 1893
- **Parent Voice website**  
[www.parentvoice.info](http://www.parentvoice.info)

## Do you need this leaflet in a different format? (such as large print or another language)

### Disabled Children's Team

Children's Services Department, Elizabeth II Court East,  
Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG  
Telephone 01962 846399  
Email [aiminghigh@hants.gov.uk](mailto:aiminghigh@hants.gov.uk)  
Website [www.hants.gov.uk/specialneeds](http://www.hants.gov.uk/specialneeds)

### Hampshire Family Information Directory

The Hampshire Family Information Directory is your easy online route to finding childcare and other family support services available near you. Visit [www.fid.hants.gov.uk](http://www.fid.hants.gov.uk)

## Who can access specialist services for disabled children?



The eligibility criteria for specialist services - information for parents and carers of disabled children



**Hampshire**  
County Council

[www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk)

## My child has a disability. What support is available?

We are working with our partners to provide a wide range of services for disabled children and their families, including short breaks and facilitating access to the same services as all children. This has been made possible through the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme ([www.hants.gov.uk/aiminghigh](http://www.hants.gov.uk/aiminghigh)).

We have set up Parent Voice, an information and participation hub, where you can find out more information, receive support and participate in decisions about services for disabled children.

Funding is available for providers to run short break activities or events for children with additional needs. A full short break offer is available to children attending special schools and those eligible to receive Higher Rate Disability Living Allowance (DLA).

## What specialist services are available?

Disabled children with complex needs may need specialist services from Children's Services, including: social work support; overnight short breaks; the family link scheme and support within and outside the home.

A social worker will make an assessment to decide if your child is eligible for specialist services, using the criteria outlined in this leaflet.

There are many disabled children in Hampshire and we use eligibility criteria as part of the assessment to prioritise and to ensure families most in need receive help.

## Do you think your child is eligible for specialist services?

Please read the criteria opposite. If you feel your child is eligible, the first step is to request an initial assessment of need. This will involve a telephone call and possible visit from Children's Services. You can do this by telephoning 0845 603 5620 or email [childrens.services@hants.gov.uk](mailto:childrens.services@hants.gov.uk)

## The criteria

We will use this statement and criteria to decide which children are eligible.

**In order to achieve outcomes appropriate to their potential and as a result of their disability, the child requires total or substantial support, appropriate to their age, from another person, which is not available within the family network.**

Examples below to be read in conjunction with the above statement.

- Child uses specialist equipment for mobility
- Child requires support for all basic self care functions when no longer age appropriate
- Child needs constant supervision throughout the day and for prolonged periods at night, when no longer age appropriate
- Child has behaviour as a result of disability that is a serious risk to self and or others, including self harm
- Child has communication needs which, without support, severely affects personal safety, i.e. is deaf, blind or without speech
- Child has been assessed as having either: Profound and Multiple Learning Disability (PMLD); Severe Learning Disability (SLD); and/or autism with challenging behaviour, which results in significant risk of self harm or harm to others

## Other factors that will influence assessments

- Carer has physical or mental health problems
- Actual or potential risk to health or safety of carer
- Carer suffers sleep deprivation on a regular basis due to needs of the disabled child through the night
- Child's behaviour is a serious risk to self or others
- Child has been / or is the subject of a Child Protection Plan
- Other Person(s) with disabilities or long-term health needs in the household who needs support
- Sole carer and has a limited support network
- Significant pressures in the family e.g. domestic violence
- Risk to the child because of the physical environment
- Risk of the disabled child's care breaking down
- Without support the child is likely to need a specialist residential or educational placement
- The family has difficulties in meeting financial commitments
- There are stressful family relationships which may be harmful to disabled child
- Impact on siblings e.g. needs of other children in the family at risk