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Aiming High for Disabled Children

short breaks programme funding

AIMING HIGH FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

Short Breaks Statement 2015-16

EXTENDING AND IMPROVING SHORT BREAKS SERVICES



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Introduction

As the Advisory Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health I am pleased to present Rotherham's Annual Short Breaks Statement 2015/16.

In Rotherham children with disabilities are children first. It is important that we enable, support and encourage services and individuals to work closely together to include and provide access for disabled children, young people and their families.

In order to support the inclusion of children with disabilities we have developed strong partnerships working alongside parents, carers, disabled children and disabled young people and a wide range of stakeholders to formulate our fifth annual Short Breaks Statement.

I am very proud of the work we have achieved so far and I look forward to developing our children's services to provide a Short Breaks Offer that allows children with disabilities the support they need to achieve the best outcomes.

Councillor David Roache

How did we prepare this statement?

This is Rotherham's fifth Short Breaks Statement created to give Rotherham families with disabled children clear information about the short breaks services available to them.

The Short Breaks Duty requires that every Council reviews their short breaks statement each year. We have done this by gathering the views of children, young people, parents, carers and professionals about Rotherham's short breaks services to help us to understand what currently works well and what needs to improve. We have also undertaken a self evaluation process and asked ourselves challenging questions about what we do and how we do it.

The feedback from the consultation and the outcomes of the self evaluation have resulted in a number of recommendations which can be found on pages 13. Over the next twelve months we will continue to work in partnership with children, young people, families and services to implement the recommendations and improve the short breaks we offer.

The National Picture

The Children and Families Act 2014 represents some of the biggest changes in 30 years to SEND provision. In Rotherham we continue to follow the principle of having the Full Service Offer for the provision of Short Breaks under Aiming High for Disabled Children.

Aiming High emphasises the importance of respite activities and respite care as essential tools to maintain and support families, ultimately enabling parents to care and children to stay at home.

Rotherham's SEND Local Offer can be found at rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/

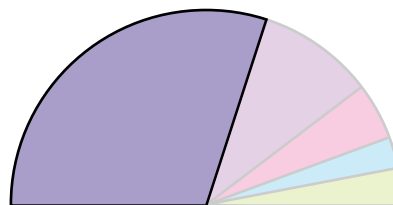
Mum has reported that the service has enabled her to spend more time with her other two children which has helped to improve family relationships in the home.



How many disabled children, young people and families live in Rotherham?

There are currently 813 children and young people registered on the voluntary Children's Disability Register. Parents and carers are encouraged to join the register in order to receive regular Aiming High updates and there has been a year-on-year increase in the number of children and young people on the register.

The number of pupils with a Special Education Needs (SEN) designation currently stands at 7,697.



Universal Services

Disabled children and families have access to a wide range of universal activities, recreational spaces, clubs, sports and leisure services across the Borough.

Universal Services are available for ALL and have a duty to make reasonable adjustments and not to treat a disabled person less favourably.

For example there are various providers which include*:

■ Childcare

- 46** Pre-school Playgroups
- 34** Day Nurseries
- 10** Children's Centres – with childcare
- 21** Out of School Clubs
- 13** Holiday Schemes
- 38** Breakfast Clubs

Further information is available at:

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/463/early_education_for_two-year-olds_report_2013

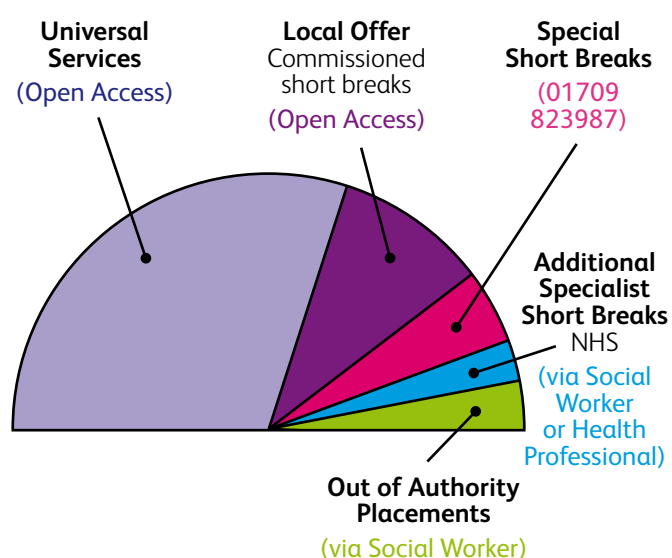
■ Integrated Youth Support Service

- 10** Youth Centres plus **3** delivered in partnership

Details are available at:

<http://www.youthi.org.uk/youthi/homepage/58/centres>

What's available in Rotherham for disabled children, young people and their families?



Rotherham offers a range of services for disabled children and families, these services are available across universal to specialist provision and include:

■ Leisure Centres

4 Leisure Centres

Additional work is also being undertaken to improve disability provision for young people aged 14+ through support for local sports clubs and organizations in order to develop teams, sessions and competition for young people.

■ Parks and Green Spaces

425 Accessible Green Spaces which includes:

- Woodland
- Urban Parks
- Country Side
- Smaller Green Spaces.

■ Schools

123 Schools across all sectors.

In addition, there are various community groups such as Brownies and Girl Guides, Cubs and Scouts, sporting groups and clubs across the borough. Universal services such as a theatre, bowling alleys and play centers/soft play areas are also available in Rotherham.

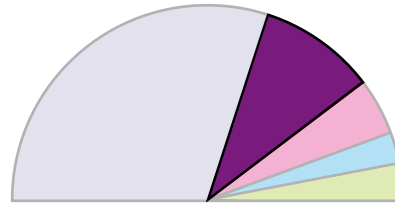
Universal services have a duty under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (2001), subsumed within the Equalities Act 2010, to make reasonable adjustments and not to treat a disabled person less favourably than any other individual.

The Council's Early Years Team provides support to all Ofsted registered childcare providers providing care for children with SEND. Support includes:

- Providing additional funding to enable providers to enhance staffing levels; from April 2014 to September 2015 146 children accessed the inclusion grant.
- Coordinate individualised planning for all staff working within the setting.
- Arrange early transition packages.

Early Years also provide an Inclusion Outreach Service to support staff within settings to implement strategies and interventions to support individual children.

*This list should not be assumed to be exhaustive.



Rotherham's Local Offer Commissioned Short Breaks Services

From April 2014 Rotherham has commissioned services from the public, voluntary and independent sectors to deliver short breaks. All disabled children and young people are entitled to a short break if they or their families would benefit from them but the level and type of service is determined by an assessment, for example Chat n Chill can be accessed by young people with a diagnosis of autism, whilst the Yours Project have a self assessment form for parents and carers to complete.

The local offer can be found at:
www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/

Commissioned Services are open referral and any parent or carer of a disabled child or young person can contact the providers in this section directly to ask for a service.

To obtain further information regarding the Short Breaks Process and Eligibility Criteria please contact:

http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/Resources/Councils/RotherhamOffers/short-breaks/Short_Breaks_Process_and_Eligibility_Criteria-2.pdf

or **01709 336432** or find us on Facebook



www.facebook.com/ahdc.shortbreaks

The commissioned services include:

Yours Project

Activities for children and young people aged 0 to 19 years, transport can be provided at a cost. The project is delivered by a range of providers to offer a variety of activities.

Contact: 01709 830154

Day of the week	Activity Provider	Venue	Time	Age Range	Frequency
Monday	Activate – After School Club	High Street Centre, Rawmarsh	5pm to 6.30pm 6.30pm to 8pm or 5pm to 8pm	8+ years	Term time only
	Open Minds Theatre Company – Creative Arts, Music, Dance and Drama	Unity Centre, St Ann's	4.30pm to 7.30pm	8+ years	Term time only
Tuesday	YMCA White Rose – Youth Club	St Barnabas Centre, Broom	5pm to 8pm	14 to 19 years	Term time only
	Ulley Activity Centre – Outdoor adventure and water sports	Ulley	4pm to 6pm	8+ years	April to October
Wednesday	YMCA White Rose – After School Club	St Barnabas Centre, Broom	3.30pm to 6.30pm	9 to 13 years	Term time only
	Rotherham United Community Sports Trust – Rolling Programme of Sports	Rotherham Leisure Complex, St Ann's Road	4pm to 6pm	8+ years	Term time only
Thursday	YMCA White Rose – After School Club	St Barnabas Centre, Broom	4pm to 6pm	Under 8 years	Term time only
	Swinton Lock Activity Centre – Canal based environmental activities, boating on the canal	Swinton Lock, Dunn Street, Swinton	4pm to 7pm	8+ years	May to November and January to March
Friday	Rotherham United Community Sports Trust – Fit 4 Football	Clifton Community School, Cranworth Road	4pm to 6pm	8+ years	Term time only
Saturday	YMCA White Rose – After School Club	St Barnabas Centre, Broom	11.30am to 2.30pm	All ages (rotation)	All year

Chat & Chill

Term-time youth clubs for young people aged 13 to 25 years. Tuesdays 6.30pm – 8.30pm at Chislett Youth & Community Centre. Thursdays 6.30pm – 8.30pm at Maltby Linx Youth Centre

Contact: Autism Communication Team 01709 336413

Whilst no longer directly commissioned, work continues in partnership to deliver the following activities.

Active Rotherham

Inclusive sports opportunities for disabled people to start, stay and succeed in sport. A range of provision targeting different ages and abilities and designed to meet the needs of the individual is provided, working closely with local leisure services and community based sports clubs to provide a high level of sports coaching whether at recreational or competition level.

Contact: **01709 363355**

Email: sportsdevelopment@rotherham.gov.uk

Black Minority and Ethnic Youth Group

Youth club environment for young BME people aged 13 years upwards held at The Place Young People Centre.

Contact: 01709 720744

Children's Disability Family Support Service

provide workshops for parents/carers relating to a common theme such as promoting positive behaviour, positive parenting and exploring sleep strategies. These workshops are usually delivered through a six week programme.

Contact: 01709 555967

Habershon House

Summer holiday break for 2 or 3 nights for the whole family, aged 13 years upwards, at a residential property in Filey.

Contact: 01709 255266

Hilltop / Kelford Schools

Summer Holiday Clubs 10am to 3pm for children and young people aged 2 to 18 years.

Contact: 01709 813386 or 512088

Kimberworth Place Short Breaks Facility

has areas specifically equipped for children with disabilities including fully accessible toilet facilities. These facilities are used by the...

Rotherham Branch of the National Autistic Society who run family drop in sessions.

Contact: 07554 439427

rotherham@nas.org.uk

Rotherham Parent Carer's Forum

Sessions for parents, children and young people to attend on Monday evenings at Kimberworth Place Short Breaks Facility.

Contact: 01709 296262

www.rpcf.co.uk/public/rotherham336.html

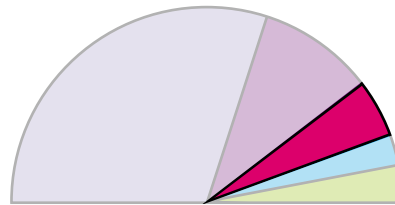


rotherhamparentcarersforum

Elephants in Step Club

A youth club environment which usually consists of a 'theme night' such as Bond, Harry Potter and Doctor Who for young people aged 13 years upwards.

Contact: 01709 822189



Specialist Short Breaks Providers

Specialist Short Breaks are accessed following referral to and assessment by social care. If commissioned services are not meeting your needs you can request an assessment by contacting the Multi Agency Support Hub on **01709 336080**. The assessment will then be considered by a multi-agency Short Breaks panel.*

The panel are able to allocate short breaks from the following menu of services:

Orchard Children's Centre consists of 3 elements:

- **Liberty House** provides a warm, homely and safe environment for young people between the ages of 8 to 18 years who experience a severe physical or learning disability and/or sensory impairment.
- **Cherry Tree House** provides medium to long term residential care in a warm, homely and safe environment for up to five disabled children and young people between the ages of 8 to 17 years.
- **Children's Disability Family Support Service** provides target focused family support for disabled children, young people and their families relating to areas of assessed need.

Families Together Service offers disabled children, young people and their families short breaks in a home based environment with experienced carers.

**To request an assessment
for a Specialist Short
Break contact:
01709 336080**

Personal Budget is a sum of money to secure provision which the Council and/or NHS has set out in an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and where the parents or young person have choice and control in securing that provision. Some or all of a personal budget can be made through a Direct Payment which a parent or young person uses to purchase the support or services they need.

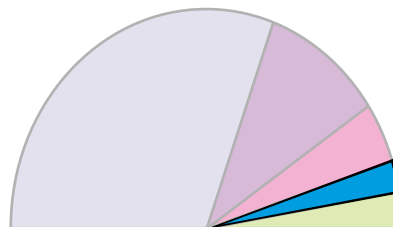
Direct Payments can be used for a range of things. One has been used to support the upkeep of an Autism Assistive Dog.



Direct Payments are cash payments made by Local Authorities to parents of disabled children and young people who have been assessed as needing social care services. The payments are an alternative to having services provided or arranged by the Council and are made so that parents can arrange and purchase the support their child has been assessed as needing.

*The Children's Disability Social Care Team's statement of purpose and the Short Breaks Panel Priority Scoring process can be provided upon request or by visiting our website:

www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/s4s/WhereILive/Council?pagelid=980
or **01709 336432**



Additional Specialist Short Breaks Providers

Complex Nursing Team provides short breaks for children and young people between the ages of 0 -19 years with complex health needs and who may require palliative care. Services are offered throughout the week, both day and night, and in a variety of settings including the child's own home.

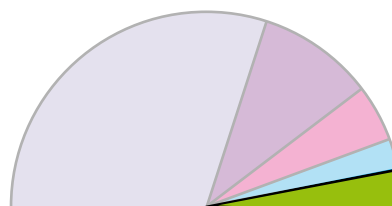
Continuing Healthcare packages are required when a child or young person's needs cannot be met by existing services or specialist services.

Contact:

YHCS.SouthYorksChildrensContinuingCare@nhs.net
Susan Stoker **01143054136** or **07773106975**

Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice provides care and support to families who have a child or young person who has a life limiting condition and is not expected to live into adulthood. They support the whole family, both at the hospice and in families' own homes.

Contact: **www.bluebellwood.org/contact-us.php**
or **01909 517 360**



Out of Authority Placements

There are currently **16** disabled children who are placed outside of Rotherham. **2** of the children are in long term residential provision with the remaining **14** children in foster care.

RMBC is considering a range of options that will support services to reduce this number in the future.

What outcomes do short breaks achieve for families and disabled children?

In order to better understand the outcomes achieved for children and their families, services have been submitting case studies as evidence. Below is a sample of some of the outcomes achieved.

“J has shown considerable development in terms of communication and interactions with staff and peers. J has made requests to use the bathroom and play with toys.”

“Children have been able to enjoy experiences which would not have been available such as the visit to Meadowhall and meeting new children and people.”

“Quality of life for the whole family has improved as a result of reduction of stress factors.”

“I talk more since coming here, I talk to everyone.”

How do we help to develop the skills of people working with disabled children, young people and their families?

All commissioned short breaks providers are subject to an annual quality assurance visit. The quality assurance visit observes short breaks service delivery, checks policies and procedures and discusses and shares good practice with professionals. Each service receives a report following the visit which identifies good practice and any areas for development. Young Inspectors were also involved in reviewing our quality assurance processes this year and have provided feedback which will inform the process for next year.

The AHDC provider/strategy group will continue to work in partnership with short breaks providers to identify, support and provide Continuous Professional Development opportunities to short breaks providers, for example highlighting Safeguarding Disabled Children training.



What support is available at transition from child to adult services?

Working practice is being reviewed during the coming year as SEND legislation and the Care Act 2014 (for adults) is implemented in Rotherham.

The development of Person Centred Reviews in Rotherham and the use of early assessment prior to Adult Services' involvement, has enabled us to begin to tailor packages of care which are most likely to be replicated in Adult Services. This is now embedded in all school processes.

By having this bespoke service workers have been able to identify where short breaks services can provide early intervention strategies to support with independence skills for young people and this has included money management, support with travelling and support with accessing college or local community social activities.

Services such as the ACT hold summer sessions for younger children who will be able to access Chat n Chill groups once they are 13 years and work with existing attendees to look at options for adulthood. ACT is also making links with adult services and exploring how to support young people to move on from Chat n Chill.

S enjoys his short break whilst his mother appreciates the opportunity to focus on her daughter's needs.



Is transport available to enable access to short breaks?

Getting to and from short breaks can be an issue for some children, young people and their families. We work in partnership with families to explore a range of approaches and options which could include:

- AHDC mini-buses, which are available for use at the Orchard Children's Centre
- The Yours Project works with families to identify individual transport needs, including working in partnership with Rotherham Community Transport
- We are currently in the process of reviewing our transport arrangements for children with SEND.
- We work with families to explore options for travel expenses via the DLA mobility component
- Alternative short breaks provision – closer to home

We continue to support families to find the most appropriate option which enables them to benefit from their short break.

How can you find out about what short breaks are on offer?

We use a range of methods to let children, young people and their families know about short breaks. Here are some of things you can do to get the information you need:

- Visit our webpage at:
www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/s4s/WhereILive/Council?pagelid=980
- Visit us on Facebook:
 <https://www.facebook.com/ahdc.rotherhamshortbreaks>

- Telephone Families Information Services on **0800 0730230**
- Register on the Voluntary Children's Disability Register – registration form can be downloaded from the webpage above
- The Rotherham Send Local Offer website at **www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/**

In addition to this we also give information face to face, leaflets, mail-outs, news letters, radio campaigns and local advertising.

How do we support disabled children, young people and their families to have a real choice about their short breaks?

As wide a range of activities as possible has been commissioned to provide real choice to children and young people around what they would like to do. These take place at a range of times and venues across the week to give as much choice as possible to families on where and when short breaks can be accessed.

Providers regularly consult with children, young people and their families about what short breaks they would like to see. Where practicable these are implemented. For example the Yours Project is currently looking at options for the Saturday Club to try to reach a wide range of children and young people.

During summer 2015, Council officers have held 7 sessions for parents and carers to find out what they would like to see from future short breaks. Further consultation has also been undertaken with parents and carers on the future direction for short breaks.

Previously L had been very distressed and had been reluctant to play with other children.

L played alongside children, helping to build dens and bring sensory toys into the soft play area.

How do we find out what children and young people think?

Children and young children are asked what they would like to do at the sessions they attend. We undertake visits each year to see all the activities on offer and talk to the children and young people about what they do and don't enjoy. At these visits this year we took 3 boxes to represent:

- What I like
- What I don't like
- What I want to try

Children and young people used a range of cards with pictures, drawings, writing and Makaton symbols to give their views. This approach was taken to enable all children to participate regardless of communication abilities.



How do we find out what parents and carers think?

Each year we send a questionnaire out to the parents/carers of every child on the Children's Disability Register asking for their views on the short breaks service and access to universal services.

During early summer 2015 we held 7 sessions for parents at a variety of times and locations across the Borough for parents and carers to tell us their views.

Individual providers also collate feedback from parents/carers at different times throughout the year and these are used to influence practice.

C enjoyed time with his carer whilst his principal carer was able to rely upon the consistency of a weekly overnight stay to allow her time to focus on her needs.

How do we find out what providers think?

We have a monthly meeting with all service providers, quarterly individual meetings with service providers and carry out annual quality assurance visits to all their activities.



This is what children and young people have told us and the actions we have taken so far:

Comment – Consider the possibilities to extend frequency of short breaks

Action Taken – Work has been undertaken to look at how this may be achieved with some amendments to practice, e.g. Saturday Club is now on a 6 week cycle in line with other YMCA clubs.

Comment - Promote the Rotherham SEND Local Offer website.

Action Taken – The Local Offer is included in this annual Statement, regular Exchange newsletters and via Facebook. Work will continue to promote the website.

How to complain

If you have a complaint or wish to make a suggestion or compliment you can contact us in a number of ways:

- Online: **www.rotherham.gov.uk/complaints**
- Email: **complaints@rotherham.gov.uk**
- By post: using a complaint form or by letter. No postage is required for posting forms or letters to us, use the freepost address below:
**The Complaints Manager
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
(FREEPOST RTCT-XKLS-ZHAZ)
Riverside House
Main Street
Rotherham
S60 1AE**
- By telephone: **01709 382121**
- By text: **07860 021447**
- In person: at one of our Customer Service Centres or any Council reception.

What do you think about short breaks now and what improvements could we make in the future?

During 2015 we have again asked you what your thoughts are about short breaks in Rotherham. We received responses from children and young people, parents and carers and responses from short breaks providers. We also undertook a self evaluation.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONSULTATION

1	Work with providers to implement changes to activities in response to feedback from children and young people.
2	Use consultation data to inform future Commissioning decisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PARENTS AND CARERS CONSULTATION

3	Increase short breaks for under 8 year olds by a defined % to be set in consultation with providers.
4	Increase sensory activities available within short break provision.
5	Increase short breaks during school holidays.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOROUGH STATISTICS AND SERVICE PROVIDER DATA

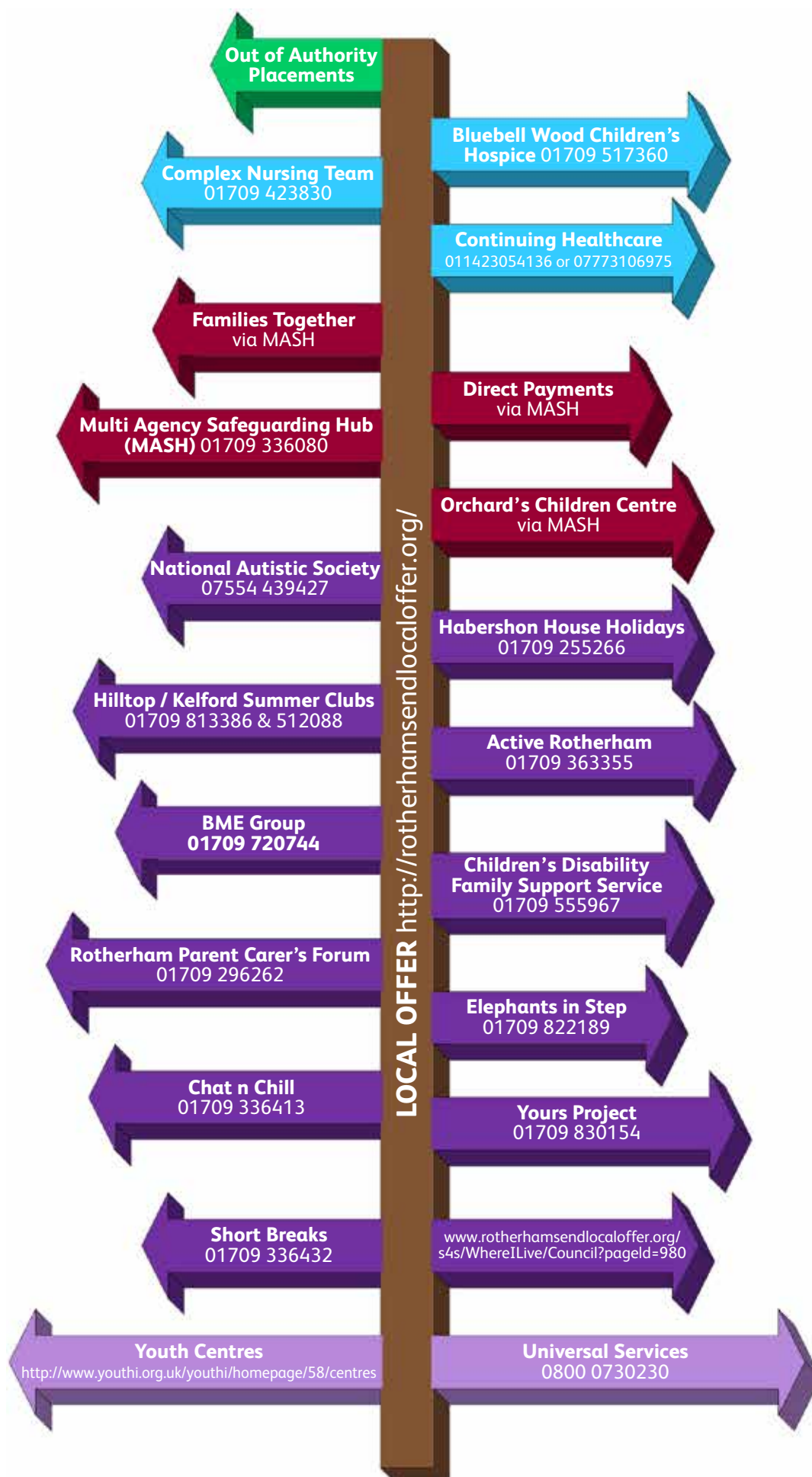
6	Increase provision for 5-8 year olds by a defined % to be set in consultation with providers
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RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SELF-ASSESSMENT PROCESS & BEST PRACTICE REVIEW

7	All providers to develop a longer term sustainability plan for their disability offer.
8	Identify 'Disability Champions' within universal services to advocate on behalf of children and young people and extend the reach of their disability offer.
9	All in-house partners to develop a 'Disability Offer'.
10	Develop mechanisms which allow disability offers from universal partners to be assessed and feedback provided to inform and influence positive change.
11	Evaluate children and young people's experiences in order that this can be used to challenge, lobby and promote inclusion.
12	Develop options for the future of Short Breaks in line with the Children and Families Act 2014.

* A detailed response analysis can be found in the Aiming High for Disabled Children Needs Analysis 2013-14 which can be obtained by contacting www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/s4s/whereilive/council?pageid=980 or 01709 336432

Services Available



Early Support

for children, young people and families

What is Early Support?

Early Support is a way of working; where everyone works together as equal partners. This enables disabled children, young people and their parents and carers to make choices and have control of the things that affect their lives.

Early Support is based on 10 principles:



To find out more please click on the link below:

www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/earllysupport

In Rotherham we have delivered Early Support Key Working training to over 500 individuals who work to support disabled children, young people and their families, this includes parents and carers. We are planning to deliver further training in 2016 to find out more please contact Jackie Parkin on 01709 336432 or visit Rotherham's Local Offer on the link below for the most up to date training information: www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/

Families Information Service (FIS) holds details of all children and young people who are currently being supported by Early Support Key Working. To find out more about "Key Working" or how to register a child or young person please contact: FREE PHONE 0800 0730230.

If you or someone you know needs help to understand or read this document, please contact us:

☎ 0800 0730 230

💻 andrew.lound@rotherham.gov.uk

Minicom: 01709 823536

Ak vy alebo niekto koho poznáte potrebuje pomoc pri pochopení alebo čítaní tohto dokumentu, prosím kontaktujte nás na vyššie uvedenom čísle alebo nám pošlite e-mail.

نه گهر تو يان كه سيك كه تو د ديناسي پيوستي بهيارمهي هه بيت بو نه ودي لهم به لگه نامه يه تيبيگات يان بيخوينته وده، تكايه پهيوه نديمان پيوه بكه له سهر نهو ژماره يه ي سهر وده دا يان بهو نيمه يله.

إذا كنت انت أو اي شخص تعرفه بحاجة إلى مساعدة لفهم أوقراءة هذه الوثيقة، الرجاء الاتصال على الرقم اعلاه، أو مراسلتنا عبر البريد الإلكتروني

اگر آپ یا آپ کے جاننے والے کسی شخص کو اس دستاویز کو سمجھنے یا پڑھنے کیلئے مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا نمبر پر ہم سے رابطہ کریں یا ہمیں ای میل کریں۔

اگر جناب عالی یا شخص دیگری که شما اورا می شناسید برای خواندن یا فهمیدن این مدارک نیاز به کمک دارد لطفاً با ما بوسیله شماره بالا یا ایمیل تماس حاصل فرمایید.