

Short Breaks Services Statement

Bedford Borough Council has a responsibility to provide a range of Short Breaks Services designed to assist individuals who provide care for children with disabilities to enable them to continue to do so, or to do so more effectively by giving them breaks from their caring role.

This statement provides information about this responsibility and will be reviewed on 1st April 2012 and annually thereafter.

Our Vision

Bedford Borough Council is committed to working with its communities and partners to improve the local quality of life.

Working together with our partners, we are determined to make the Borough a better place to live work and visit.

We are committed to supporting children and young people with disabilities and are determined to provide the right support to them and their families.

We will promote the safety and well being of children and young people with disabilities, ensuring they can fully participate in family and community life, enjoy themselves with friends and make meaningful decisions about their own lives.

We will continue to work closely with families and key professionals to help children and young people with disabilities to enjoy opportunities to reach their potential and fulfil their ambitions.

We will offer locally based, culturally appropriate services to meet the needs of Bedford Boroughs growing communities, and provide support to organisations delivering Short Break Services.

We will be clear and equitable, gaining an understanding of individual circumstances where possible and allocating services based on identified and assessed needs.

We are committed to making the best use of the resources available to us in achieving this vision.

What are Short Break Services?

Short Breaks Services have been defined as services that give:

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

Short Breaks Services can include day-time or overnight care in the homes of children with disabilities or elsewhere, educational or leisure activities outside their homes, or services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays.

Bedford Borough Council recognises that short breaks can benefit children and young people with disabilities, their parents or carers and other family members specifically siblings.

Who are Short Breaks Services for?

Families living in Bedford Borough who have a child or children with a disability aged between 0 – 18 are eligible for Bedford Borough Council's Short Breaks Services.

The Equality Act 2010 defines disability as either a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

This may include a physical or learning disability, a hearing or visual impairment.

It includes children and young people with Autism and Asperger's Syndrome and children who may have challenging behaviour as a result of a learning disability.

It also includes children who have complex needs, who require palliative care, or who have a life limiting or a life-threatening condition.

Benefits for Children and Young People

Short Breaks Services can present opportunities for children and young people with disabilities to be able to experience new activities, establish and build friendships and pursue their aspirational goals.

Further Short Breaks Services can assist children and young people with disabilities to develop life skills, grow in independence and confidence and experience access to leisure and recreational activities as part of a local community.

Benefits for Parents and Carers

Studies have shown that for some parents of a child with disabilities the provision of short breaks simply means the difference between being able to cope, or not.¹

Short Break Services allow parents and carers opportunities to carry out everyday activities, attend to personal health and wellbeing, pursue employment or training, maintain relationships and develop support networks.

This often results in families being better able to cope, and to be able to continue to provide care for both their children with disabilities and other children they may have.

Benefits for Siblings

Siblings of a child with disabilities may share concerns their parents have including feelings of isolation, a need for information, guilt, and concerns about the future. Their issues may also include resentment, peer issues, embarrassment and pressure to achieve.

Spending undivided time with their parents or carers as part of a Short Breaks Service can allow siblings the opportunity to enjoy being themselves, assist in alleviating anxiety and enable them to be better able to cope with any difficulties they may face.

The Short Breaks Regulations

The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2011 (here referred to as the Short

Breaks Regulations) provides further detail to local authorities as to how they must perform their duty under the Children Act 1989 to include, as part of the range of services they provide for families, breaks from caring for carers of children with disabilities to support them to continue to care for their children and to allow them to do so more effectively.

In summary, the Short Breaks Regulations requires local authorities to do three things:

- To ensure that, when making Short Break provision, they have regard to the needs of different types of carers, not just those who would be unable to continue to provide care without a break
- To provide a range of breaks, as appropriate, during the day, night, at weekends and during the school holidays
- To provide parents with a Short Breaks Services Statement detailing the range of available breaks and any eligibility criteria attached to them

The Short Break Regulations also direct that local authorities must keep their Short Breaks Services Statement under review and, where appropriate, revise the statement ensuring they show regard to the views of carers in their area.

Short Break Services

Bedford Borough Council provides a range of Short Break Services including Universal, Targeted Universal, Targeted Specialist and Specialist Services for children and young people with disabilities, their parents or carers and other family members specifically siblings. This range of Short Break Services includes:

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

¹ A report on Themes Emerging from the Qualitative Research into the Impact of Short Break Provision on Families with Disabled Children Centre for Disability Research, December 2009

Short Breaks Services Local Offer

Our Short Break Services Local Offer presents all families with a choice of services accessible without assessment and usually by self-referral.

This benefits families by allowing them the opportunity to choose from the range of Short Breaks Services that most meets their needs, and assists them in ensuring that they have access to services when they most need them and not just when they are in crises.

Bedford Borough Council has invested in the funding and development of our Local Offer and this includes the provision of Universal and Targeted Universal Services.

As part of our Short Break Services Local Offer we are committed to seek to increase the availability, frequency and capacity in Universal and Targeted Universal Services for children and young people with disabilities and their families.

Universal Services

Universal Services are designed so that all children, young people, parents or carers and other family members can access them and include health, education, social and leisure facilities.

The range of Universal Services in Bedford Borough includes:

- Citizens Advice Bureau
- National Childminding Association Community Childminding Scheme
- Education Support Services (Connexions)
- Family Information Service
- Family Support Groups & Church Groups
- General Practitioners, Health Centres, Child Development Centre, School Nurses & Primary Care Trust
- Home Start, Children's Centres & Youth Clubs
- Leisure Facilities, Swimming Pools, Parks and Open Spaces
- Libraries
- Nurseries, Pre-Schools, Lower, Middle and Upper Schools and Colleges
- Voluntary and Community Organisations for Children, Young People and Families

Targeted Universal Services

Targeted Universal Services are designed to provide a level of additional support to enable children and young people with disabilities opportunities to experience new activities, establish and build friendships and pursue their aspirational goals; it also provides parents or carers and other family members a chance to enjoy a break from their caring role.

The range of Targeted Universal Services Providers in Bedford Borough includes:

- Autism Bedfordshire
- Bedford and District Cerebral Palsy Society
- Beds Garden Carers
- Carers in Bedfordshire
- Carers Support Bureau
- Early Years Support Service
- Families United Network
- Foundation Stage Advisory Teachers
- MENCAP – Holiday Play Scheme
- MENCAP – Smiley Club
- Parent Partnership
- Parenting & Sibling Support Groups
- Sensory Equipment Library

As part of our Targeted Universal Services Bedford Borough also hosts three special schools including:

- Ridgeway Special School – For pupils with physical disabilities and learning difficulties aged 5 – 16
- St. John's Special School - For pupils with severe learning difficulties; additional physical or sensory needs and autistic spectrum conditions aged 2 – 19
- The Grange Special School – For pupils with moderate learning difficulties and autistic spectrum conditions aged 7 – 16

Additional Support

In addition to accessing Universal and Targeted Universal Services, some families may require additional levels of support in order to be able to continue to provide care for their child with disabilities or to do so more effectively.

Bedford Borough Council has invested in the funding and development of additional support

services, and families can access Targeted Specialist and Specialist Services following formal assessment and in line with our Short Breaks Services Eligibility Criteria.

Targeted Specialist Services

Targeted Specialist Services are designed to provide a more intensive level of assessment, intervention and support than can be provided by Universal and Targeted Universal Services.

It includes provision of services for children and young people who may have severe or multiple disabilities for which a reasonable standard of health and development will not be maintained without targeted or intensive multi-agency support, and who are likely to require further specialist services without such intervention.

The range of Targeted Specialist Services in Bedford Borough includes:

- Direct Payments Carers
- Domiciliary Care Services
- Intensive Family Support Service
- National Childminding Association
- Webster Stratton Parenting Programmes
- Sensory Impairment & Music Therapy Team
- Special Educational Needs Transport
- Specialist Health Professional Support

Specialist Services

Specialist Services are designed to provide a high level of intensive assessment and intervention where there is a serious concern about the health or development of a child or young person.

It includes provision of services for children and young people who have severe or multiple disabilities where constant care and support is needed and where an immediate response to providing this care and support is needed.

The range of Specialist Services Provision in Bedford Borough includes:

- Hospice Care Provision
- Family Link Workers
- Day-time care in the homes of children with disabilities or elsewhere
- Overnight care in the homes of children with disabilities or elsewhere

Assessment of Needs

Not all children and families will need the same level of support, or Short Breaks Services. Some will need more than others because of the nature of their child's disability, or the effect it has on normal day-to-day activities.

This is why we may need to assess your child and families needs to be able to provide the Short Breaks Services at the right time.

Assessments can be brief depending on the nature of the circumstances. In some cases it may be sufficient to decide the nature of any services required. In others it may determine that Child in Need (CIN) Initial or Core Assessments are required.

Our aim is that the level of assessment is proportionate to the apparent level of need of the family and to ensure that the welfare of the child is safeguarded.

The Children's Act 1989 defines a child with a disability as a Child in Need (CIN).² As such local authorities have a responsibility under legal framework³ to assess the impact of any disability on family life by considering:

- The child's developmental needs
- The parents' parenting capacity
- Family and environmental factors

Local authorities also have a duty to assess the needs of carers taking account of their wishes to undertake work, education, training or leisure activities. Assessments typically consist of an analysis of need, judgement and decision making and may be one or more of the following:

- Self-Assessment
- Carers Assessment
- Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
- Child in Need (CIN) Initial Assessment
- Child in Need (CIN) Core Assessment

There may be occasions when situations arise that have a significant effect on your immediate ability to provide care for your child with a disability. In these circumstances please contact

² 1989 Children's Act S17(10)

³ As set out in Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and Their Families – Published by the Department of Health

the Social Care Teams who will assess the need for support.

How do I Arrange an Assessment?

Families are legally entitled to request a formal assessment of their individual circumstances and this assessment should precede any decisions made regarding allocation of services.

Common Assessment Framework (CAF) Assessments can be completed by a Lead Professional from one of the following:

- General Practitioners, Health Centres, Child Development Centre, School Nurses & Primary Care Trust
- Nurseries, Pre-Schools, Lower, Middle and Upper Schools and Colleges
- Voluntary Sector Organisations
- Social Care Workers
- Intensive Family Support Service

Child in Need (CIN) and Carer Assessments can be arranged by Social Care Teams who can be contacted by telephoning: **01234 267422**.

What Happens Next?

Once a Lead Professional or Social Care Worker has been identified they will arrange to conduct a formal assessment of your needs and refer you to the appropriate services.

Some referrals will be made to Resource Allocation Panels who will use the assessment to identify a tailored package of Short Breaks Services which can meet your individual needs.

Further information detailing these processes can be found at the end of this Short Breaks Statement.

Right to Appeal

Families and individuals have a right to appeal the assessment of their needs. This can be discussed with the Lead Professional or Social Worker who has undertaken the assessment.

Monitoring and Review

Bedford Borough Council aims to provide the most appropriate resources to assist individuals who provide care for children with disabilities, to enable them to continue to do so, or to do so

more effectively by giving them breaks from caring.

It is also to present opportunities for children and young people with disabilities to be able to experience new activities, establish and build friendships and pursue their aspirational goals.

Bedford Borough Council recognises that the needs of children and their families change and that re-assessment of these needs may be required.

If you would like your needs re-assessed please contact the Lead Professional or Social Worker who will be able to discuss this with you further.

Direct Payments

Direct payments are local council payments for people who have had a formal assessment of need. They can be used for Short Break Services, or as an alternative to direct services.

This option will be provided with support to assist you in getting started, and there is no obligation on you to take this option up.

If you do not have an allocated Social Worker you can contact the Direct Payments Support Team at the Disability Resource Centre, who can give you more information. (**01582 470900**)

Short Breaks Statement Review

This Short Breaks Services Statement has been written based on consultations⁴ with children, young people, parents, voluntary organisations, professionals and will be reviewed on **1st April 2012** and annually thereafter.

If you have any questions about Short Break Services, or would like to be involved in the design and development of Short Breaks Services in Bedford Borough please contact our Short Breaks Manager on **01234 267422**.

For more information about any Short Break Services mentioned within this Statement please contact our Families Information Service on: **0800 023 2057**.

4 Consultation processes included: Aiming High Steering Group; Short Breaks - User Engagement Report; Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Short Breaks Services Useful Contacts

Families Information Service

0800 023 2057

www.fis.bedford.gov.uk

The Family Information Service has an online directory which holds local and national information on childcare, youth clubs, sport and leisure activities, family support groups, and services for children with a disability.

If you do not have access to the internet then please call the Family Information Service on the number above who will be happy to help.

Children with Disabilities Register

0800 023 2057

The register is an electronic database of children and young people in Bedford Borough who have a disability. Being part of the register means parents and carers are sent useful information on local services on a regular basis.

Disability Resource Centre

01582 470900

A comprehensive disability information service and equipment display area for all ages.

Children with Disabilities Team

01234 228709

The team provides a service for children with disabilities and their families and carers.

Early Years Support Service

01234 290770

Educational support and advice to children from 0 - 5 years with special educational needs.

Foundation Stage Advisory Teachers

01234 228721

Provide support to childcare and early years settings to enable them to include all children.

Parent Partnership Service

01234 316353

Confidential and impartial support for parents of children with special educational needs.

Sensory Impairment & Music Therapy

01234 300710

Support for children with a hearing impairment, visual impairment and or multi-disability.

Special Educational Needs Transport

01234 276116 / 228771

Provision of schools transport for special education needs students.

Autism Bedfordshire

01234 350704

Support & activity groups and information, advice and guidance for parents and professionals.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

01234 351759

A wide range of support & activities for people with cerebral palsy & their families.

Face to Face - Carers in Bedfordshire

01234 214914

An emotional support service for parents of a child with disabilities.

Families United Network

01582 523691

Support group for children with disabilities, includes social activities and holiday club.

National Childminding Association Community Childminding Scheme

01908 551620

A specialist service linking children with disabilities with Ofsted registered childminders.

MENCAP

01582 560003

Family advisory service for parents and individuals with learning disabilities.

Contact a Family

0808 808 3555

A charity for families with disabled children, offering information, advice and guidance.

Short Breaks Network

Information about short breaks best practice and outcomes for children with disabilities and their families.

www.shortbreaknetwork.ning.com

Together for Disabled Children

Provides information around the development and delivery of short breaks services.

<http://www.togetherfdc.org>

Short Breaks Services Eligibility Criteria

This part of our Short Breaks Services Statement is intended to assist professionals in the allocation of Short Breaks Services to children and young people with disabilities, their parents or carers and other family members specifically siblings.

It is also to provide information about Bedford Borough Council's Short Break Services processes and eligibility criteria to children and young people with disabilities and their families.

The Resource Allocation Guidance and Short Breaks Eligibility Criteria are to be used in conjunction with a formal assessment of need such as a Common Assessment Framework (CAF); Children in Need (CIN) Initial and, or Core Assessment and a Carers Assessment.

These assessments are usually carried out by Lead Professionals in the case of CAF Assessments, or Social Workers in the case of Children in Need Assessments and Carers Assessments. Resources will be allocated by consideration of any submitted formal assessments and additional supporting evidence.

This guidance uses descriptors to quantify the effect a disability has on the ability of children and young people, their parents or carers and siblings to carry out normal day to day activities.

It also uses examples of what typical day to day activities for these groups may be for people unaffected by a disability.

Disabilities and impairments may vary both in severity and the impact they have on family life and it is not always possible to account for all eventualities in advance.

Careful consideration should be given as to the individual circumstances for each case and the impact on the health and wellbeing of parents or carers and siblings this may have as it will strongly influence the determination of need.

As such the terminology used within this guidance is subjective to allow for discretion in determining levels of need and in making decisions on the basis of these needs.

Descriptors and examples should be used as general indicators only and decisions regarding

the level of need and allocation of resources should reflect this. The aim should always be:

To provide the most appropriate resources to assist individuals who provide care for children with disabilities to enable them to continue to do so, or to do so more effectively by giving them breaks from caring; and

To present opportunities for children and young people with disabilities to be able to experience new activities, establish and build friendships and pursue their aspirational goals.

Why we Use This Guidance

We use this guidance because it is based on legal requirements including:

- The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2011
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children's Act 1989
- The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)
- The Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970
- The Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families

Because it is designed around the Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families it does not exclude anyone and helps us to identify what Short Break Services children, young people and families need.

Further it uses the principles of the Equality Act 2010 which describes the effect of an impairment and not the impairment itself.

Right to Appeal

Families and individuals have a right to appeal the assessment of their needs. They should discuss this with the Lead Professional or Social Worker who has undertaken the assessment.

Definitions

DISABILITY - The Equality Act 2010 defines a disabled person as a person with a disability.

A person has a disability for the purposes of the Act if he or she has a physical or mental impairment and the impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day

activities. People who have had a disability in the past that meets this definition are also protected by the Act.

There are additional provisions relating to people with progressive conditions. People with HIV, cancer or multiple sclerosis are protected by the Act from the point of diagnosis. People with some visual impairments are automatically deemed to be disabled.

Whether a person is disabled for the purpose of the Act is generally determined by reference to the effect that an impairment has on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

An impairment may be physical or mental and it may not always be possible, nor is it necessary, to categorise a condition as either a physical or mental impairment.

The requirement that an adverse effect on normal day-to-day activities should be a substantial one reflects the general understanding of disability limitation going beyond the normal differences in ability which may exist among people.

The time taken by a person with an impairment to carry out normal day-to-day activities should be considered as should the cumulative effects of more than one impairment.

The Act states that a long-term effect of an impairment is one which has lasted at least 12 months or is likely to last at least 12 months or is likely to last for the rest of the life of the person affected.

The Act does not define what is to be regarded as normal day to day activity but in general are things people do on a regular or daily basis.

Conditions that are Excluded

Some conditions are specifically excluded from being covered by the disability definition, such as a tendency to set fires or addictions to non-prescribed substances.

Further Definitions

For the purposes of the Equality Act 2010, these terms have the following meanings:

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 (there are special rules covering recurring or fluctuating conditions.)

NORMAL DAY TO DAY ACTIVITIES – These include everyday things like eating, washing, walking and going shopping.

PARENTS/CARERS - A person who provides care for a child with disabilities and who is either the child's parent or a person who is not the child's parent but who has parental responsibility for that child.

SIBLINGS – A sibling can be a brother or sister of a disabled child, or a child who permanently lives within the same household.

Considerations

The information and examples given in the Resource Allocation Guidance and Short Breaks Services Eligibility Criteria are indicators only; normal day-to-day activities will be different for each child and family and may be affected by factors such as age, culture or religion.

Personal care means things like going to the toilet, having a wash, getting dressed or teeth cleaning. For babies it will be things like nappy changing.

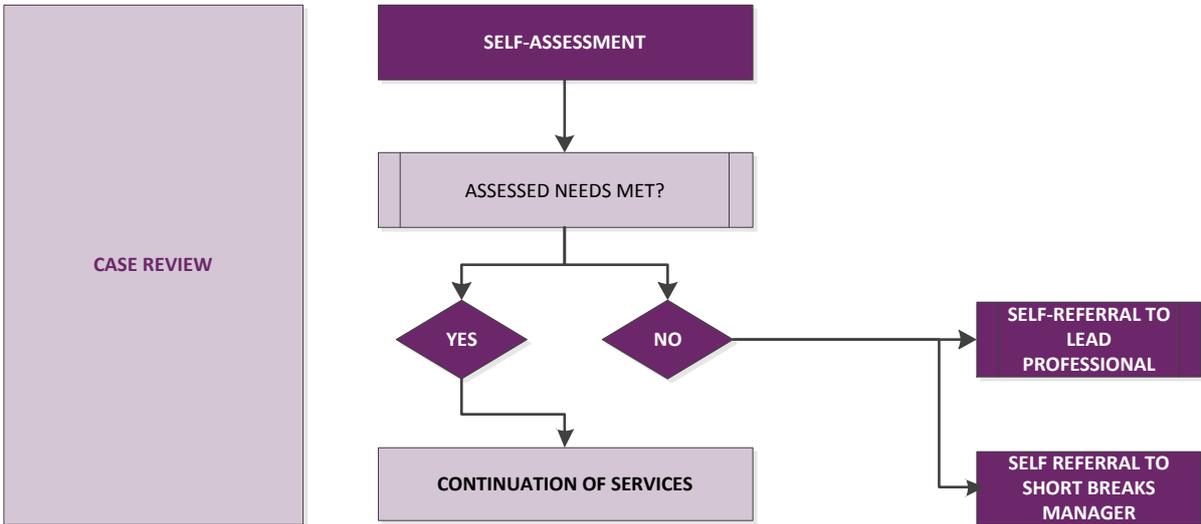
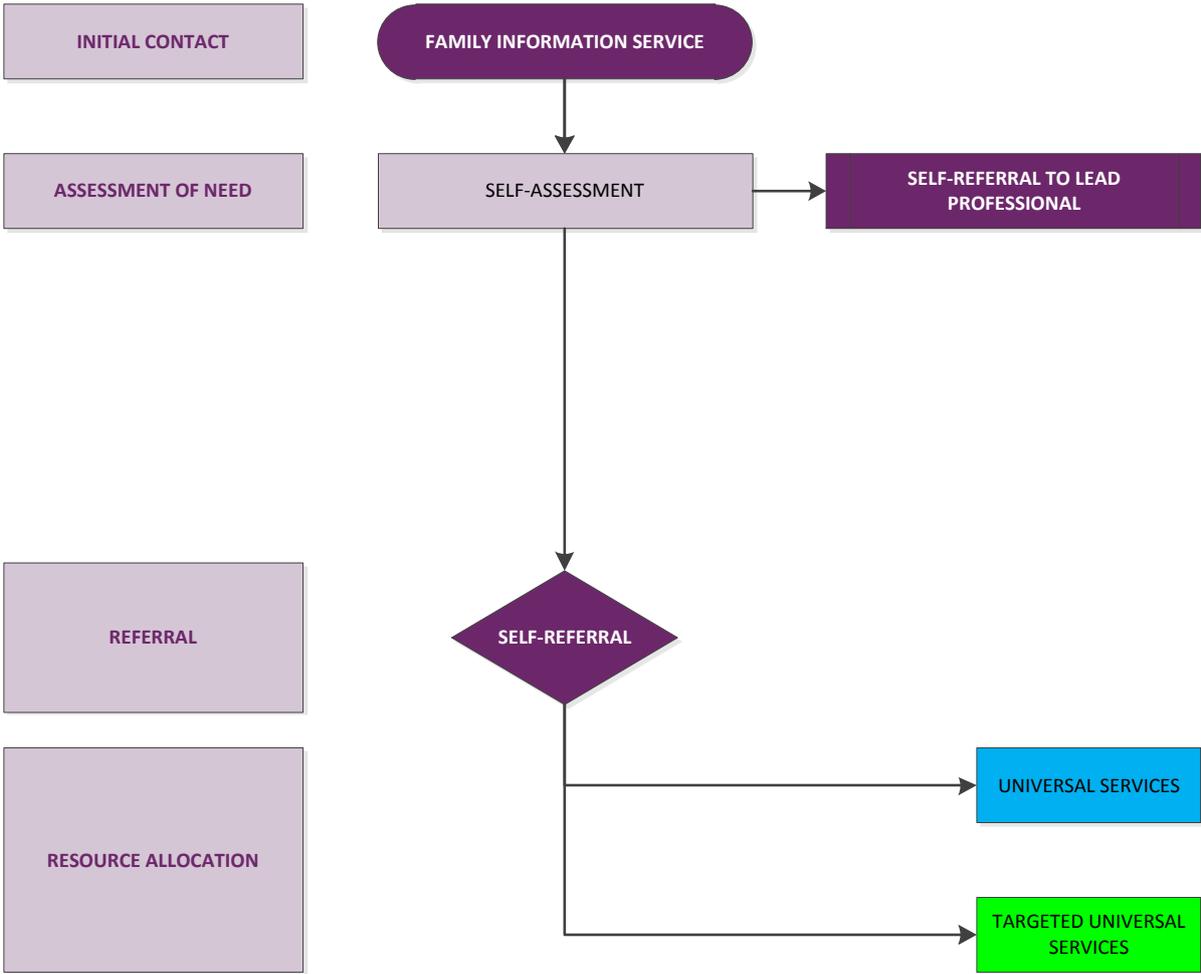
Family's needs are assessed on the criteria set out in Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and Their Families. This looks at three areas including:

- The child's developmental needs
- The parents' parenting capacity
- Family and environmental factors

Circumstances that may be encountered within these areas because of a disability are highlighted in the considerations section for each assessed area.

If you have any questions about the Short Breaks Services Statement, Pathways, Resource Allocation Guidance or Eligibility Criteria please contact our Short Breaks Commissioning Manager on **01234 267422** to discuss these matters further.

SHORT BREAKS SERVICES - SELF-REFERRAL PATHWAY



SHORT BREAKS SERVICES - LEAD PROFESSIONAL PATHWAY

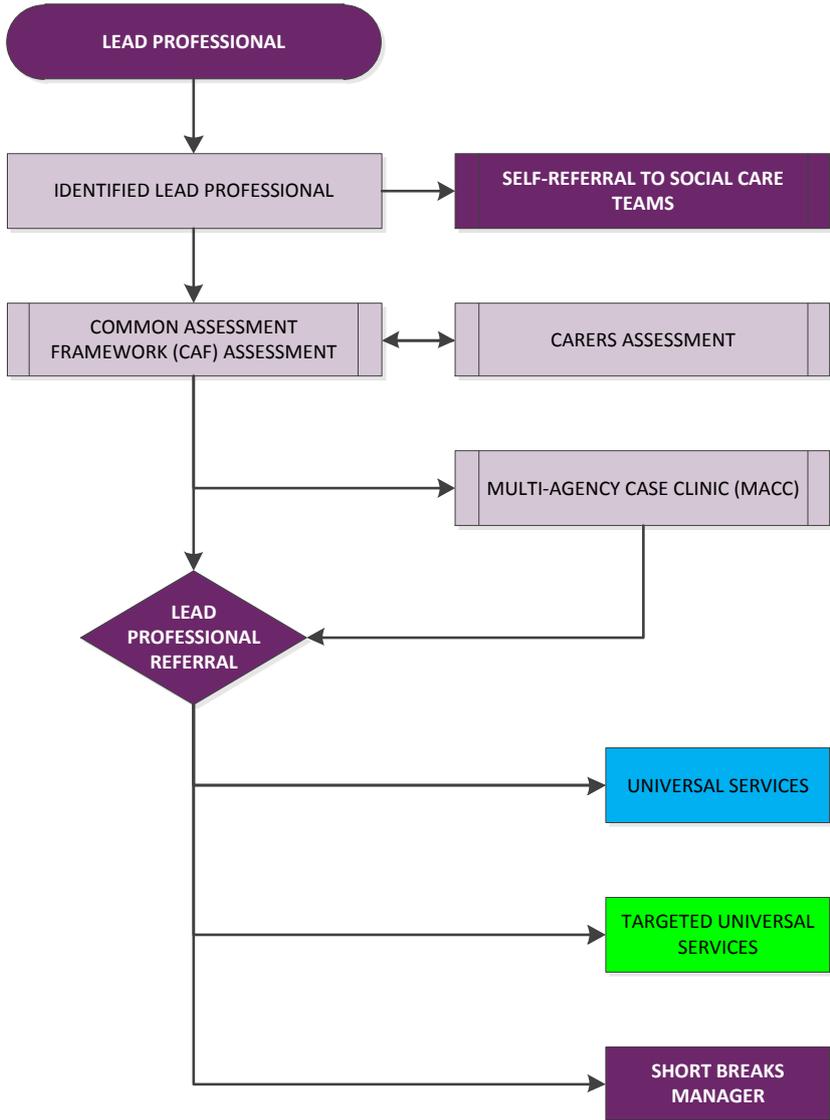
INITIAL CONTACT

ALLOCATED PROFESSIONAL

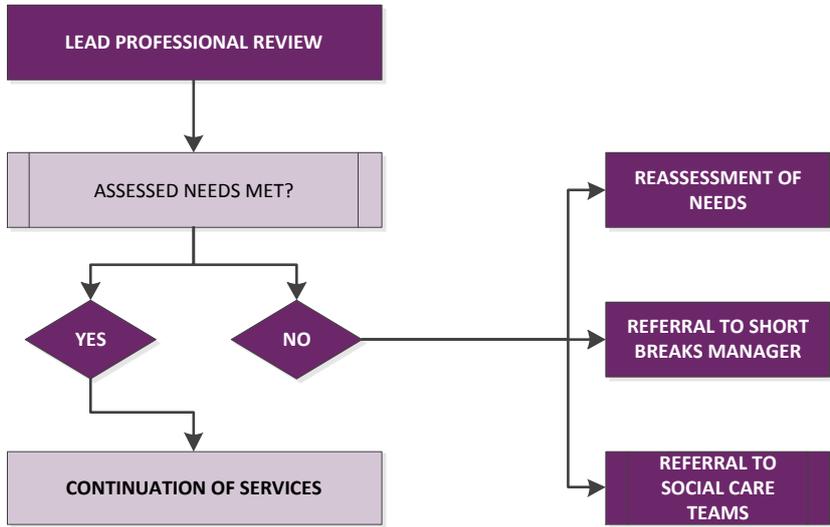
ASSESSMENT OF NEED

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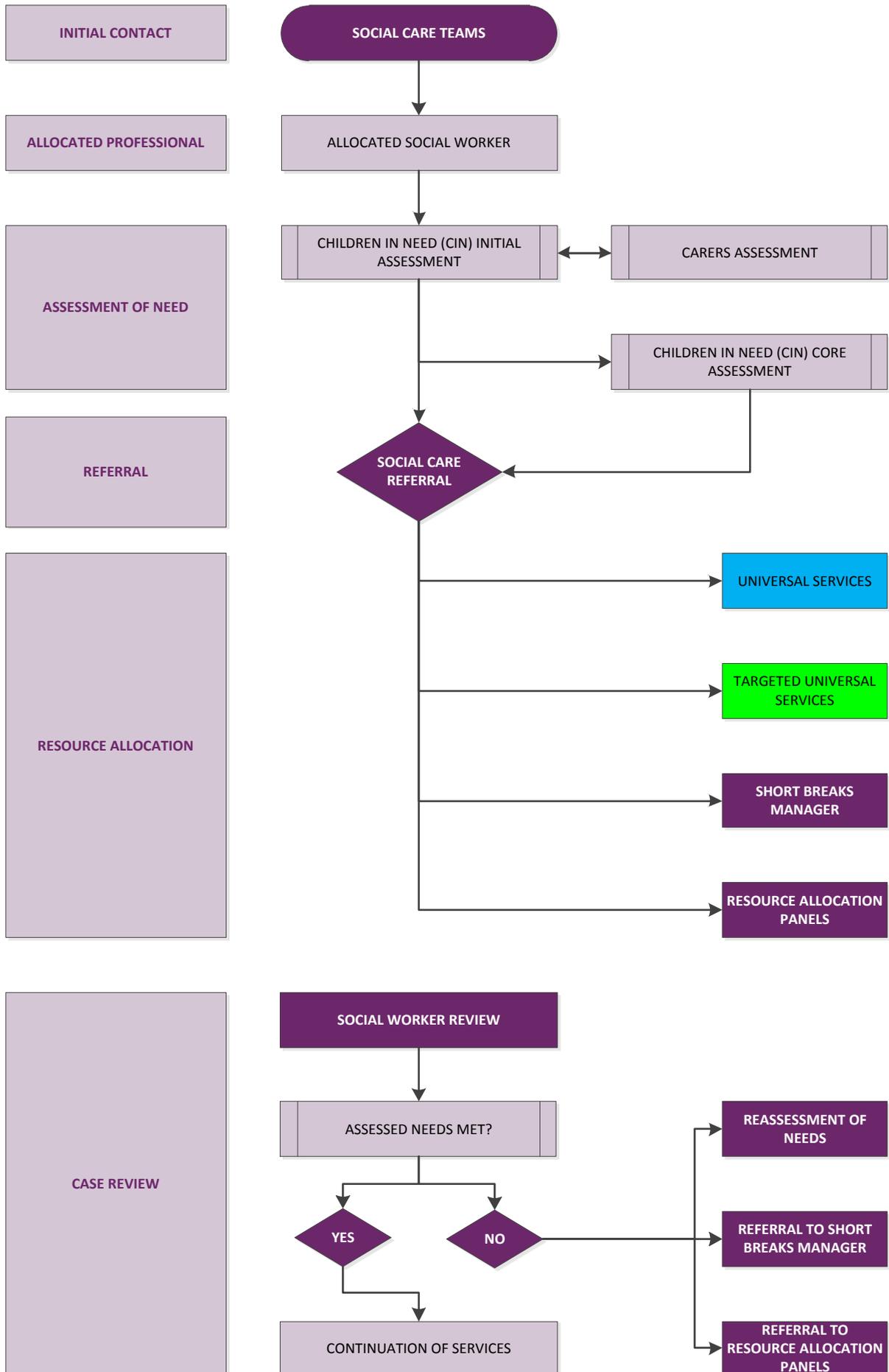
RESOURCE ALLOCATION



CASE REVIEW



SHORT BREAKS SERVICES - SOCIAL CARE PATHWAY



SHORT BREAKS SERVICES - RESOURCE ALLOCATION PANELS

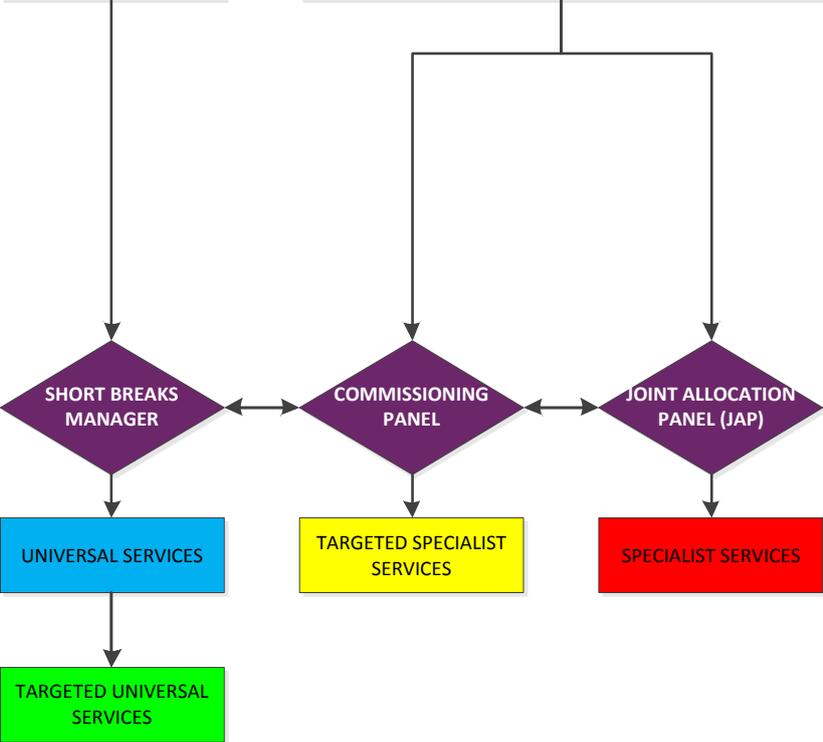
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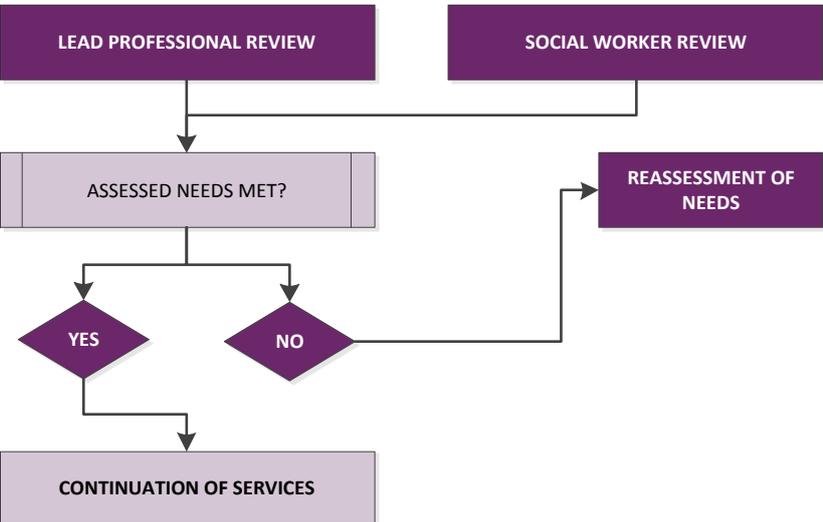
REFERRAL



RESOURCE ALLOCATION



CASE REVIEW



Resource Allocation Guidance - Child's Developmental Needs

AGE RANGE	EXAMPLES OF NORMAL DAY TO DAY ACTIVITIES
PRE-BIRTH TO 12 MONTHS	The child has times of rest and responding to other people in between times of feeding and personal care. There are times of sleep with an adult nearby but not constantly watching. They respond to a variety of toys and play times that help them to learn and feel happy. The child is able to develop a strong bond with the people who care for them, in a familiar environment.
1 TO 2 YEARS	The child enjoys times of play and reassurance from familiar people. There are short periods of time when the child can play alone, but watched. They start to enjoy being near other children. The child is learning to feed themselves with help and is developing some communication skills; people who know them will understand what they want. There are periods of sleep with an adult nearby.
3 TO 4 YEARS	There are periods of play with other children without an adult helping, both at home and in other safe group or individual settings. The child can communicate their needs to familiar adults. They sleep undisturbed for most of the night.
5 TO 10 YEARS	The child is developing friendships outside of the home with support from an adult. They are developing their own interests and are interested in and are able to learn about the world. They are easily cared for by others who are familiar and responsible. They can express their emotions. They are independent for most of their personal care, like going to the toilet, if given the things they need.
11 TO 15 YEARS	The young person is independent in all aspects of personal care. They have a social life with friends of their own separate from family and carers. They can travel and explore their own local community without hands-on support.
16+ YEARS	The young person is independent in all aspects of their personal life. They can make decisions that affect their future. They enjoy and pursue their own interests independently.

Considerations

CHILD'S DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS - These might be physical or emotional needs, difficulties with learning or communicating, or sensory disabilities. This section includes anything about a child's health, development or abilities that affect them.

Resource Allocation Guidance - Parenting Capacity

AGE RANGE	EXAMPLES OF NORMAL DAY TO DAY ACTIVITIES
PRE-BIRTH TO 12 MONTHS	Frequent and unpredictable periods of their attention are needed to make sure a child has the care it needs. They have periods of sleep broken by the child waking. They have the chance to share short periods of care with trusted friends or family members. Parents or carers have some opportunity to have hobbies and interests of their own, once the child's needs are met. They are able to meet most of their own personal care needs most of the time. They become increasingly confident about their ability to recognise and meet their child's needs.
1 TO 2 YEARS	Parents or carers have short periods of time to pursue their own interests as the child's care needs can be met by trusted and familiar adults. Their sleep may continue to be interrupted by the child. They are able to meet their own personal care needs. They are able to recognise the needs of the child and meet those needs with available support.
3 TO 4 YEARS	Parents and carers have periods of time to pursue their own interests, as the child is able to be cared for by others, either alone or in a group setting. They are able to meet their own personal care needs. They are able to recognise and meet all the needs of the child with available support.
5 TO 10 YEARS	Parents and carers have periods of time to pursue their own interests, as the child is able to be cared for by others, either alone or in a group setting. They are able to meet their own personal care needs. They are able to recognise and meet all the needs of the child with available support.
11 TO 15 YEARS	Parents and carers have periods of time to pursue their own interests, as the child is able to be cared for by others, either alone or in a group setting, or is able to look after themselves. Parents or carers are able to meet their own personal care needs. They are able to recognise and meet all the needs of the child with available support.
16+ YEARS	Parents and carers have periods of time to pursue their own interests, as the child is able to be cared for by others, either alone or in a group setting, or is able to look after themselves. Parents or carers are able to meet their own personal care needs. They are able to recognise and meet all the needs of the child with available support.

Considerations

PARENTING CAPACITY - This is about parents or carers both in that role and as adults with their own lives to lead. It is about the demands on parent/carers as a result of a child's needs, their ability to meet these needs and the effects on their lives.

Resource Allocation Guidance - Family and Environmental Factors

AGE RANGE	EXAMPLES OF NORMAL DAY TO DAY ACTIVITIES
PRE-BIRTH TO 16+ YEARS	<p>All child siblings have periods of attention from their parents or carers which helps them to be healthy and meet their needs.</p> <p>Siblings have the support needed to maintain their own interests and friendships.</p> <p>Siblings feel safe and secure in their home environment.</p> <p>The family have child-friendly people and places they can go to easily without requiring lots of additional resources or support.</p> <p>The family are able to move around their own community and have a choice of places they can go to.</p> <p>Adult family members are able to work as they choose with available child care support.</p> <p>The parents or carers are able to keep the home environment clean and safe enough to meet the needs of the whole family.</p> <p>The family have enough money to meet their basic needs.</p>

CONSIDERATIONS

FAMILY AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS - This is about the wider family, including any siblings, and the effects on their lives. It is about the choices and support a family have and make, and their ability to use community facilities available to everyone.

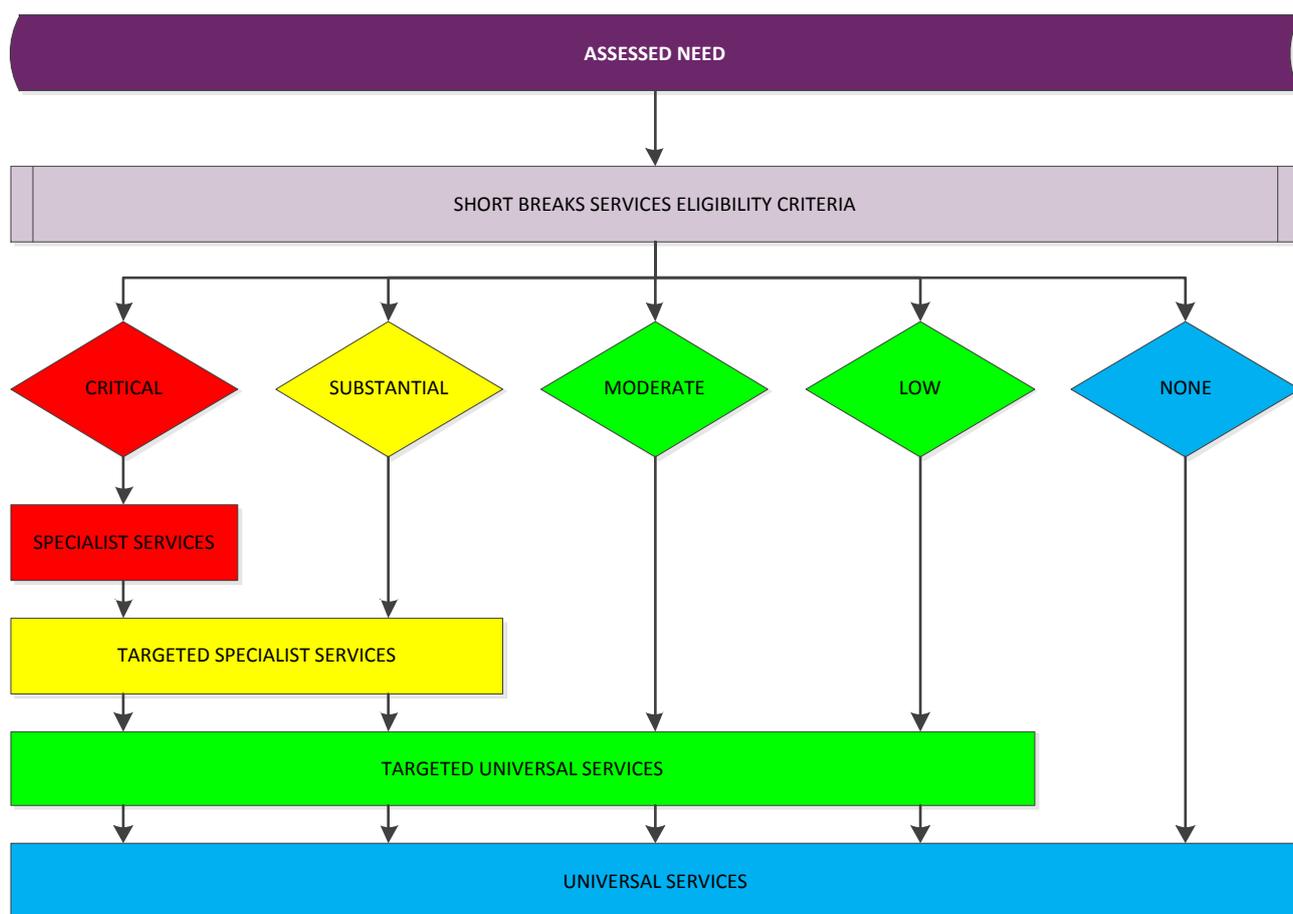
Short Breaks Services Eligibility Criteria

	CRITICAL	SUBSTANTIAL	MODERATE	LOW	NONE
CHILD'S DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS	Capacity of the child to carry out all normal day-to-day activities is limited by their impairment or health needs	Capacity of the child to carry out most normal day-to-day activities is limited by their impairment or health needs	Capacity of the child to carry out several normal day-to-day activities is limited by their impairment or health needs	Capacity of the child to carry out some normal day-to-day activities is limited by their impairment or health needs	Capacity of the child to carry out normal day-to-day activities is not limited by any impairment or health needs
PARENTING CAPACITY	Capacity of parent/carer to carry out all normal day-to-day activities is limited	Capacity of parent/carer to carry out most normal day-to-day activities is limited	Capacity of parent/carer to carry out several normal day-to-day activities is limited	Capacity of parent/carer to carry out some normal day-to-day activities is limited	Capacity of parent/carer to carry out normal day-to-day activities is not limited
FAMILY AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS	Capacity of siblings to carry out all normal day-to-day activities is limited Ability of the family to access all universal services and community resources is limited	Capacity of siblings to carry out most normal day-to-day activities is limited Ability of the family to access most universal services and community resources is limited	Capacity of siblings to carry out several normal day-to-day activities is limited Ability of the family to access several universal services and community resources is limited	Capacity of siblings to carry out some normal day-to-day activities is limited Ability of the family to access some universal services and community resources is limited	Capacity of siblings to carry out normal day-to-day activities is not limited Ability of the family to access universal services and community resources is not limited

Considerations

Disabilities and impairments may vary both in severity and the impact they have on family life. It is not always possible to account for all eventualities in advance. Careful consideration should be given as to the individual circumstances for each case and the impact on the health and wellbeing of parents or carers and siblings this may have as it will strongly influence the determination of need. As such the terminology used within this guidance is subjective to allow for discretion in determining levels of need and in making decisions on the basis of these needs. Descriptors and examples should be used as general indicators only and decisions regarding the level of need and allocation of resources should reflect this.

SHORT BREAKS SERVICES – RESOURCE ALLOCATION GUIDANCE



Universal Services

- Citizens Advice Bureau
- National Childminding Association Community Childminding Scheme
- Education Support Services (Connexions)
- Family Information Service
- Family Support Groups & Church Groups
- General Practitioners, Health Centres, Child Development Centre, School Nurses & Primary Care Trust
- Home Start, Children's Centres & Youth Clubs
- Leisure Facilities, Swimming Pools, Parks and Open Spaces
- Libraries
- Nurseries, Pre-Schools, Lower, Middle and Upper Schools and Colleges
- Voluntary and Community Organisations for Children, Young People and Families

Targeted Universal Services

- Autism Bedfordshire
- Bedford and District Cerebral Palsy Society
- Beds Garden Carers
- Carers in Bedfordshire
- Carers Support Bureau
- Early Years Support Service
- Families United Network
- Foundation Stage Advisory Teachers
- MENCAP – Holiday Play Scheme
- MENCAP – Smiley Club
- Parent Partnership
- Parenting & Sibling Support Groups
- Sensory Equipment Library

These are not exhaustive lists; additional services may be available and should be considered when allocating resources.

Targeted Specialist Services

- Direct Payments Carers
- Domiciliary Care Services
- Intensive Family Support Service
- National Childminding Association
- Webster Stratton Parenting Programmes
- Sensory Impairment & Music Therapy Team
- Special Educational Needs Transport
- Specialist Health Professional Support

Specialist Services

- Hospice Care Provision
- Family Link Workers
- Day-time care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere
- Overnight care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere

