Support Services for Disabled Children and their Families

Learning Skills and Culture
Access and Inclusion
Children’s Disability Service

SHORT BREAKS FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

Guide
North Lincolnshire Council is committed to providing services for disabled children that are co-ordinated, sufficient, and enable families with disabled children to enjoy aspects of life other families take for granted. A key component of this is a range of short break services that are easily accessible, with an emphasis on early support, and which enables disabled children/young people, and their families, to live a full life.

**WHAT ARE SHORT BREAKS?**

Short Breaks are opportunities for children/young people to enjoy experiences beyond the family and which allow parents/carers to gain a valuable break from their caring responsibilities.

Short Breaks within North Lincolnshire cater for children and young people 0 – 18 and can take the form of:

- **Individualised Short Breaks**
- **Group Base Short Breaks**
- **Direct payments**
- **Specialist overnight Short Breaks (May be provided by The Cygnets or Butterfly Carers Scheme)**

Most disabled children and their families should be able to access short breaks without the need for an assessment and, at a minimum, will be entitled to short breaks during school holidays. For high level, individualised or overnight Short Breaks an assessment of need will be required.

**Accessing your Short Break:**

- The starting point is to register with North Lincolnshire Council through the Short Breaks Team (address overleaf).
- Following receipt of your registration form, the Short Breaks Team will contact you to discuss short break activities and your needs.

We want to provide services that are honest, open and accountable and to seek the views of the people we work with. We would like to hear any comments you may have about the service, whether good or bad. Please contact us using the details overleaf.

**How do you complain if you need to?**

If you are unhappy with any aspect of the service, please let us know by contacting us using the details overleaf.

If you are still unhappy and wish to make a formal complaint you should contact the Complaints and Representations Manager on 01724 296426