Services and support for parents, carers and families of children and young people with additional needs and disabilities in Bromley

This information is also a guide for those working with children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, including the voluntary sector
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Foreword by Terry Parkin
Director of Education, Care and Health Services

I am pleased to introduce the revised 3rd edition of the Resource Guide for children and young people with additional needs or disabilities in the London Borough of Bromley.

The system for disabled children and young people and those with special educational needs is changing. These changes will happen because of the new Children and Families Bill. The Bill will come into effect in September 2014, subject to parliamentary approval.

National Pathfinders from 20 local authorities, including Bromley and Bexley Pathfinder are leading the way in developing effective approaches to implementing the reforms informing the Children and Families Bill. This includes looking at improved ways to share information about the support that may be available in our area for disabled children and young people and those with special educational needs (SEN) and their families.

Through our SEN and Disability Services the London Borough of Bromley is jointly working with multi-agency partners across the borough to meet the needs of children and young people with additional needs and disabilities. We endeavour to achieve this through early intervention and working together with children, young people and their families to develop the support services needed. We aim to ensure fair access to the relevant specialist services, whilst also ensuring that we continue to develop inclusive access to universal services.

We do hope the Resource Guide continues to be a valuable source of information for parents, carers and families. Professionals may also find it useful to help identify the services and support available. The guide aims to provide the most current and up to date information for local and community services and some of the national services that families may be able to access.

Terry Parkin
Director of Education, Care and Health Services
The London Borough of Bromley
General Information

Information for parents, carers and professionals

This Resource Guide provides information for parents, carers and families of school age children and young people with additional needs and disabilities in Bromley. Further copies can be obtained through specialist support and disability services.

There are two other booklets updated regularly and all guides are downloadable through www.bromley.gov.uk (keyword disabled children) Printed copies of the booklets are also available through the relevant teams.

> For babies and young children from birth to five: the booklet, Resource Guide for Early Support available to parents and carers of babies and young children with additional needs or disabilities in Bromley, can be obtained through the Bromley Early Support and Complex Needs team, based at the Phoenix Children's Resource Centre.

> Special Educational Needs and Disability: a guide to Specialist Support for Children and Young People in Bromley, which also provides details of Bromley School provision for children with additional needs or disabilities.

If you wish to have an informal discussion about the services detailed in this booklet, please do contact the relevant professional for support and advice, or for signposting to the services you require contact;

- Pelin Ahmet, Specialist Information Officer
  Tel: 020 8313 4511
  Email: pelin.ahmet@bromley.gov.uk

- Kay Moore, Parent Representative and Parent Participation Officer
  Tel: 020 8776 3170
  Email: kay.moore@phoenixsch.org.uk

The Bromley Local Offer

The draft Children and Families Bill proposes that every local council in England must make information available for the type of help and support available in their area for children and young people with special educational needs or who have a disability. This is for everyone to read, and is called the Local Offer.

The Local Offer includes information on the services and support that the local authority expects to be available locally for children and young people and should also include support available outside of the area for children and young people for whom it is responsible.

**The Local Offer covers:**

> Education, including children and young people from Bromley who are studying somewhere else

> Social Care Services including Short Breaks

> Health

> In line with local and national policy the arrangements for children and young people to receive travel support to Early Years settings, school and colleges

> Preparing for Adulthood (those young people aged 14-25)

> Sources of information, advice and support for families

**Where can you find the Local Offer?**

Work is in progress for the Local Offer here in Bromley. It was decided that the most appropriate place to find this information all in one place would on the Bromley MyLife Portal. This website is currently being developed to incorporate services for children and young people with SEN and disability and their families.

**My Life Portal for Local Offer Information**

[www.bromley.mylifeportal.co.uk](http://www.bromley.mylifeportal.co.uk)

The Local Authority is working with Bromley Parent Voice and young people to make it simple for you to find what you are looking for, and to make sure the information is accurate, family friendly and up to date.
Purpose of the Local Offer and support available

The purpose of the Local Offer is to enable parents and young people to see more clearly what services are available locally and how to access them.

The London Borough of Bromley has divided services into three categories. These categories aim to explain services and support available and the “offer” and priorities for those with the greatest needs.

- **Universal Services** – These are services that any child (with or without a disability) can access
- **Targeted Services** – These are services commissioned or provided by the local authority to provide early intervention and support for disabled children, young people and their families
- **Specialist Services** – These are services and support provided to disabled children, young people and their families with the highest level of need

Bromley’s principles for the Local Offer:

- **Accessible**: Up to date information is easily accessible to parents/carers and young people providing clarity and confidence
- **Engaging**: Parents/carers and young people are involved in developing and reviewing the Local Offer
- **Clear and comprehensive**: Information will cover services and support that is available in Education, Health and Social Care to support parents/carers, disabled children and young people and those with special educational needs (SEN). It will also include a clear explanation of thresholds for accessing specialist services and support

National Early Support Programme

What is Early Support?

Early Support is a way of working, underpinned by 10 principles that aim to improve the delivery of services for disabled children, young people (birth to 25) and their families. This principled way of working focuses on enabling services and practitioners to work in partnership with families. It also enables services to better co-ordinate their activity and provide families of children and young people with complex needs, with a single point of contact and continuity through key working.

Early Support is a core partner supporting the new Special Educational Needs and Disability reforms and is a key approach to meeting the needs of disabled children, young people and their families.

Early Support helps local areas implement the Government’s strategy to bring together the services families need into a single assessment and planning process covering education, health and care, for children and young people with more complex needs.

Information, Downloadable Resources and the Early Support App

The Early Support resources, materials and training are available to achieve a way of working that will support children, young people and their families, practitioners and others working with them. The national resources (www.ncb.org.uk/early-support/resources) provide information on a range of conditions and general information. They also provide templates to enable families to share information about their child. The app provides access to a range of information and enables families to record important things about themselves and their child to share with professionals working with them. The existing Developmental Journals have been revised and extended through the age range, a new Developmental Journal has been launched for school age children 5 - 19. There are also Developmental Journals for specific childhood conditions or disabilities.

- National Early Support Programme
  Tel: 020 7843 6350
  Email: earlysupport@ncb.org.uk
  Web: www.ncb.org.uk/earlysupport

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<th>Early Support Principles</th>
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Overview of Services

Special Educational Needs and Disability Services

Head of Service: Mary Çağan

Bromley’s Special Educational Needs and Disability Services is organised through three teams offering a wide range of support and services who work closely with commissioning and the Disabled Childrens Team to provide integrated services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. These are:

> Special Educational Needs Services
> Specialist Support and Disability Services
> Inclusion Support Services

At the time of going to press the Children and Families Bill is progressing swiftly through Parliament. This has built on the government Green Paper (March 2011) ‘Support and aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability.’ These changes are seen as the most radical reform to Special Educational Needs and Disability for 30 years.

The Children and Families Bill focuses on all children and young people in this country who are disabled, or identified as having a special educational need. It is about their aspirations and their hopes, their desire to become, like every child and young person, independent and successful in their chosen future and to the greatest extent possible, the author of their own life story.

In Summer 2011 the Department of Health and the Department for Education launched a significant Pathfinder programme to test proposed reforms to the services and systems which underpin support for children and young people with a disability or special educational need (SEN). The London Borough of Bromley went on to achieve National Pathfinder status in Autumn 2011, following a joint Bromley and Bexley bid.

For more information about the Bromley Pathfinder Project, please go to the Bromley Parent Voice website (working together in partnership):

- [www.bromleyparentvoice.org.uk/pathfinder](http://www.bromleyparentvoice.org.uk/pathfinder)

In April 2013, Bromley and Bexley achieved National Pathfinder Champion status, supporting the implementation of the proposed new reforms across London.

For a copy of the Executive Summary of the Children and Families Bill:
[www.education.gov.uk/childrenandfamiliesbill](http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandfamiliesbill)

The Children and Families Bill will come into effect in September 2014 (subject to parliamentary approval).

Bromley Special Educational Needs and Disability Services welcomes the opportunity to continue working to improve and develop high quality services in partnership with parent, carers and others who support our children with special educational needs and disability. Every child who is disabled or identified as having a special educational need, deserves support so that they, like every other child, can achieve their hopes and aspirations. We can only achieve that by working together in partnership.

I hope that you find the information in this Resource Guide useful.

Mary Çağan
Head of Special Educational Needs and Disability Services
Specialist Support & Disability Services

Head of Service: Helen Norris

The Services encompass:

- Specialist Support and Disability integrated referral pathway for children and young people with complex needs
- Pre-School Specialist Support and Disability Service (0-5)
- Bromley Early Support and Complex Needs Team (0-19), including parent participation and information

Specialist Support and Disability Services are based at the Phoenix Centre in Bromley and the Hawes Down Centre in West Wickham. The Service is a proud winner of a number of prestigious national awards for work with children and young people with more complex SEN and disabilities placing the ‘Team Around the Child and Family’ providing co-ordinated services. The Service works with multi-agency partners to provide specialist advice, early intervention and where necessary, multi-agency assessment and special educational provision, for children with more complex needs. The Service, working in an integrated way with families, has been leading the Pathfinder work on the proposed new implementation of Education, Health and Care Plans which are expected (subject to parliamentary approval) to replace Statements of Special Educational Need from September 2014.

- Helen Norris
  Tel: 020 8315 4741/9
  Email: helen.norris@phoenixsch.org.uk

Specialist Support and Disability Panel (SSDP)

This multi-agency Panel provides an integrated referral route across agencies from professionals and schools for children and young people whose circumstances and complex needs require a multi-agency approach and specialist advice and assessment. The Panel also receives formal requests for the development of an Education, Health and Care Plan for children and young people with complex special educational needs and disabilities.

The Panel meets fortnightly during term time and less frequently during the school holidays.

- Tel: 020 8315 4718
  Email: specialistdisability.panel@phoenixsch.org.uk

Pre-School Specialist Support & Disability Service

Lead: Annabel Dixon

Key features of the services offered are:

Early identification, intervention and co-ordinated multi-agency assessment through the Phoenix Pre-School provision and outreach work, for children from birth to 4+ with significant special educational needs and disabilities.

- Portage and Assessment Team (birth to 4+ years)
- Phoenix Pre-School multi-agency assessment (2-5 years)
- Outreach and Inclusion Support to Early Years provision for children with complex needs.

- Annabel Dixon
  Tel: 020 8315 4734
  Email: annabel.dixon@bromley.gov.uk

Bromley Early Support & Complex Needs Team (birth to 19)

Early Support Key Worker Co-ordinator & Senior Advisory Teachers: Sally Harrison and Pauline Campbell

Key features of the services offered are:

The Early Support & Complex Needs Team provides support to children and young people birth to 19, with severe and/or complex special educational needs or disabilities, who require input from a multi-agency team and/or specialist assessment.

- ‘Team around the Child and Family’ support for children and young people from birth to 19 with the most complex needs, including intensive keyworking
- Joint specialist multi-agency assessment, including complex health needs
- Information and signposting for parents and professionals for children with complex needs
Guidance to schools in developing specialist provision to meet more complex SEN and disability in borough

Follow up of complex multi-agency referrals to Specialist Support & Disability Panel

Place planning and SEN and Disability audit of specialist provision

- Email: sally.harrison@phoenixsch.org.uk
  Email: pauline.campbell@bromley.gov.uk

Parent Participation and Information

The Parent Participation Officer acts as a conduit between the local authority and Bromley Parent Voice Forum and works closely with local service providers, in Education, Health, Care and the Voluntary and Community Sector to support and involve parents in the shaping of local and national priorities, contributing to improvements in services for children and young people with disabilities. Advice, information and signposting can also be provided to support families.

- Parent Participation Officer: Kay Moore
  Tel: 020 8776 3170
  Email: kay.moore@phoenixsch.org.uk

For more information about Bromley Parent Voice visit: www.bromleyparentvoice.org.uk

Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre

The Phoenix Centre offers a range of developmental assessment, educational, therapy and health services for children and young people who have, or who are likely to have, more complex needs and disabilities. Multi-agency services located at the Centre include Community Consultant Paediatricians, Community Nursing Team, Therapists, Clinical Psychologists/ CAMHS, Specialist Teachers, support staff and the Phoenix Pre-School Multi-Agency Assessment provision. Specialist facilities include hydrotherapy, soft play, sensory room and garden.

- The Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre
  40 Mason’s Hill, Bromley, BR2 9JG
  Tel: 020 8466 9988 (Health Services)
  Tel: 020 8315 4741/9 (Specialist Support & Disability Services)
  Tel: 020 8466 8811 (Phoenix Pre-School)

Hawes Down Centre

The Hawes Down centre is part of Bromley Council’s specialist community services, incorporating staff from the Specialist Support & Disability Services, Care Services, localised and youth services within Bromley. The centre offers a range of specialist services with a focus on children and young people with additional needs and disabilities and their families. Resources at the centre include multi-sensory and soft play rooms, art and cookery rooms, large sports hall and ample outdoor play areas. There are also crèche facilities for younger children to give parents the opportunity to meet with professionals involved in their care and to access social and leisure opportunities and family support.

- The Hawes Down Centre
  Hawes Lane, West Wickham BR4 9AE
  Tel: 020 8776 3140
  Email: aflynn@hawesdowncentre.org.uk or admin@hawesdowncentre.org.uk

- Specialist Support and Disability Services
  Tel: 020 8315 4741/9
  Disabled Childrens Team
  Tel: 020 8313 4511
  Email: disabledchildrensteam@bromley.gov.uk
Disabled Children’s Team:

Service manager: Mark Smith

Key features of the services offered are to:

- Provide advice and information to families with disabled children from age birth to 18 years old
- Assess the needs of children and their families.
- Work closely with the Social Care Referral and Assessment Service and Safeguarding Teams to ensure that disabled children in need of safeguarding and protection are planned for appropriately.
- Responsible for placing, monitoring and reviewing the needs of disabled children in care.
- Provide specialist Short Break support to meet identified needs that cannot be met by universal services.

The Disabled Children’s Team is a specialist Social Care team that works with severely disabled children and young people where the disability has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the child or young person’s ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. This remit includes children and young people with severe learning and/or physical disabilities, severe and profound needs related to ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder), disability arising out of serious or chronic illness, severe sight and/or hearing impairment. It does not include children and young people with a mental health diagnosis as the primary need.

The team works under relevant children’s and disability legislation such as the Children Act 1989, Equality Act 2010, and Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000. A child and their family are entitled to an assessment of their needs under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. This assessment also highlights the needs of carers. The team completes the assessment using the national Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families (DH 2000). Alternatively, some families may wish to have their needs identified by a professional who knows them and a Common Assessment Framework (CAF) may be more appropriate to identify how needs can be met locally without the need for specialist Social Care intervention.

For more information, please contact the duty Social Worker.

- **Disabled Children’s Team**
  - Hours: 8.45am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday
  - Telephone: 020 8313 4511 during office hours
  - Email: disabledchildrensteam@bromley.gov.uk (non-urgent general enquiries only)

- For emergencies out of office hours and on bank holidays, contact the Emergency Duty Team
  - Tel: 020 8464 4848
Inclusion Support Services

Head of Service: Julia Cavalli

Griffins

Sensory Support Service
The Service offers advice and support within educational settings to children and young people with a visual or hearing impairment. We work closely with the families from diagnosis and with other professionals involved with the child. The Service also runs a variety of workshops and social events at Griffins for the children, families and other professionals. The families make good use of the Centre as well as having access to the well equipped Sensory Room for the development of vision in the early years. Contact the Griffins for details of activities.

• Sensory Support Services
  Lovibonds Avenue
  Orpington
  BR6 8ER

Hearing Impaired Team (Griffins)

> Peripatetic Teacher of the Deaf for pupils with hearing impairment 0-19 years
> Primary Provision at Griffins for Deaf and Hearing Impaired Pupils
> The Deaf Centre at Darrick Wood Senior School

• Gina Rosado (Lead for Deaf and Hearing Services 0-19 years)
  Tel: 01689 889850
  Email: gina.rosado@bromley.gov.uk

Vision Impaired Team

> Peripatetic Teachers of the Visually Impaired for pupils with visual impairment

• Sally Thomas (Lead for Vision Team 0-19 years)
  Tel: 01689 889856
  Email: sally.thomas@bromley.gov.uk

Educational Psychology Service

Part of an Educational Psychologist’s role involves working with young children individually, observing them both at home and in pre-school settings, as well as carefully listening to families and other professionals concerns about the child’s needs. Recommendations and advice are suggested in order to encourage the child’s development and learning, and prepare the child for school.

> Based on a consultation framework that works in partnership with staff and parents to offer a preventative approach involving problem-solving.

> Undertake observation and individual assessment of children and young people.

For an informal discussion about the support available, please contact:

• Educational Psychology Service
  Tel: 020 8313 4168
  Email: eps.admin@bromley.gov.uk
Special Educational Needs Services

Operations Manager: Tony Harty

Key tasks of the Service are managing statutory assessments, determining placements, considering reviews of pupils with special educational needs, and arranging home-to-school SEN transport where needed.

This is undertaken by ensuring:

> full implementation of the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice, providing support and guidance for schools, parents and other agencies on relevant aspects;

> compliance with the statutory time-scales for assessment and reassessment under the Education Act 1996; in line with expected changes to the law for Education, Health and Care Plans from September 2014;

> that, wherever appropriate, children with special educational needs receive their education alongside their mainstream peers;

> that quality information is provided for parents of children under assessment;

> efficient and effective travel assistance between home and school for those pupils whose needs fall within the criteria for transport;

> that every endeavour is made to seek agreement with parents and avoid, wherever possible, any recourse to the SENDisT tribunal;

> that a database of pupils who fall within the statutory assessment process is rigorously maintained.

Tel: 020 8313 4488
Web: www.bromley.gov.uk

Transport and Travel Assistance

For large numbers of children of statutory school age, travelling to and from school will be a reasonable and safe walking experience or bus journey. There will however be some children who may require additional travel assistance and for eligible children, this will be provided free of charge.

For further information contact the SEN Transport team:

- Tel: 020 8313 4740
  Email: sentransport@bromley.gov.uk

Joint Commissioning for Disabled Children

Joint Commissioner: Hilary Rogers

> Bromley has joint commissioning protocols in place for a number of services where Education, Social Care and Health plan services and work together to ensure that the needs of children and young people are best met by combining resources and budgets, providing a consistency of service delivery with better outcomes and good value for money.

- Email: hilary.rogers@bromley.gov.uk
The Assessment Process
Moving to primary school is always an exciting and special event, but like all important occasions it requires careful planning. Some children have needs that will require extra support when they start school. They may be receiving help from a range of professionals and may continue to benefit from this support when they go to school. This extra support may be through an EHC Plan (Education, Health and Care Plan), a Pupil Resource Agreement (PRA) or through Health Needs Without Resource to Funding through an assessment of special educational needs from the Specialist Support and Disability Services.

Support at school may be provided in the following ways:
1) Placement at a Specialist School.
2) Placement at a Specialist Provision attached to a mainstream primary school.
3) Placement in a mainstream class in a local primary school with extra planned support.

Further detailed information about specialist support in Bromley can be found on the London Borough of Bromley website and in the booklet “Special Educational Needs and Disabilities: A Guide to Specialist Support For Children and Young People in Bromley” which can be downloaded from the website: www.bromley.gov.uk

Writing Parental Reports
Parents are always asked to provide relevant and up-to-date information about their child. The Local Authority wants to know about your child, their strengths and needs and to hear your views. All your comments are valued. The following will guide you on how to write your report. The headings are intended to be guidelines and you can use them as you wish or write your report in your own style. It helps if you can include examples to demonstrate the important points you want to make.

Suggested headings for a parent/carer’s report . . .

> What do you remember about your child’s early years?
> What is your child like now?
> General health
  - Your child’s eating and sleeping habits; general fitness; minor ailments, serious illnesses/accidents, hospitalisations, medication or special diet.
> Physical development
  - Your child’s ability in terms of mobility; crawling, sitting, rolling, standing, walking, running, climbing, jumping, catching.
  - Fine motor skills, i.e. reaching, grasping, building, scribbling, drawing, doing puzzles.
> Self help skills
  - How does your child manage eating/drinking; dressing/undressing; toileting, washing, brushing hair/teeth?
> Communication
  - Does your child make or copy sounds, point or make gestures to communicate to you? Can he/she understand and respond, following instructions, use words and phrases, ask questions, chatter?
> Playing and learning at home
  - Does your child have favourite toys or activities? Does he/she prefer to play alone or with others? Can he/she share or take turns? Does he/she concentrate on activities or toys? Does he/she enjoy sharing books, games or enjoy TV and DVDs?
> Relationships
  - What kind of relationship does your child enjoy with parents, brothers and sisters, friends, other children or adults who he/she may meet? Does your child relate better at home? Is he/she very sociable or does he/she prefer to be alone?
> **Behaviour at home**

- Is your child co-operative, able to fit in with family life and routines? Does his/her mood vary? Does he/she have tantrums? Is he/she demonstrative and show affection?

> **At school**

- Does your child relate to the adults and other children? How has he/she been helped to develop and make progress?

> **General views**

- What is your child good at; what does he/she like doing?
- What does your child worry about or find difficult?
- What are your concerns?
- Is there any other information that you would like to give, e.g. about your family; major events that might have affected your child; reports from other people?
- What do you think are your child’s special needs?
- How do you think these could be best provided for?
- How do you think your child’s needs affect the needs of the family as a whole?

**Bromley schools and colleges**

Links to all educational establishments in Bromley, including specialist schools

- Tel: 020 8464 3333
  Email: csc@bromley.gov.uk
  Web: www.bromley.gov.uk/schoolsandcolleges
Bromley Children Project
The Bromley Children Project is a team working with parents and carers of children aged 0 – 12, and older in exceptional circumstances, who are struggling and or at risk of being referred into statutory services. They work in a holistic way, to help improve their families’ lives and their children’s life chances, and work toward independence, e.g. increasing their knowledge and skills in relation to their role as parent and provider for their families through appropriate, training, development, and employment.

The Team provides high quality family support services and delivers a range of approved evidence-based parenting courses across the borough. It is made up of specialists in Family Support and Parenting, Additional Needs and Disability and Transition to secondary school which includes support for families going through the secondary school application process (CHOICE) and the Parent Partnership Service (BPPS – see separate entry).

The Project has staff based in Children and Family Centres that link with local primary schools, Children and Family Centres and Early Years providers across the whole of Bromley.

The Project works in partnership with the family, providing needs-led support and challenge to help parents and carers to effective positive change in their lives and improve outcomes for their children; individual help and/or small group work, parenting courses, classes/training, groups and other activities, usually in Children and Family Centres and sometimes in schools. Services for parents and carers are supported by crèches, enabling parents of pre-school aged children to attend.

The Project works in close partnership with a range of agencies to ensure the support provided to families is the most appropriate of that available.

• For more information call:
  Tel: 020 8461 7261
  Web: www.bromley.gov.uk/bromleychildrenproject

Bromley Children and Family Centres
Each centre is different and offers services specific to the needs of the local community. Health, Social Care, Education and Voluntary Support Agencies are working together to ensure the integrated services for children and young people are delivered at the centres.

The centres will vary, but each will be able to advise or signpost to services for all families. The types of services that you can expect from a Children and Family Centre relate to early education and childcare, family support and parental outreach; child and family health services and links with schools and local early years settings. For further information on Children and Family Centres, please contact:

• The Bromley Children Project
  Tel: 020 8461 7259
  Web: www.bromley.gov.uk (keyword Bromley Children Project)

Bromley Children and Family Centres
Courses and drop-in sessions on Child Development, School Readiness, Family Support and Parenting, Health and Wellbeing and Skills Acquisition as well as quality play sessions for 0 to 5’s.

• Biggin Hill
  Sunningvale Avenue
  TN16 3TN
  Tel: 01959 571 694
  Email: bigginhillcfc@bromley.gov.uk

• Blenheim
  Blenheim Road
  BR6 9BH
  Tel: 01689 831 193
  Email: blenheimfc@bromley.gov.uk

• Burnt Ash
  Rangefield Road
  BR1 4QX
  Tel: 020 8697 4503
  Email: burntashcfc@bromley.gov.uk
Universal Services

Universal services are those services provided to all children, young people and their families, such as children’s centres, youth clubs, extended school activities and care providers. All universal services have a duty to respond to the Equality Act 2010 by ensuring that their services are accessible and comply with reasonable adjustments required for disabled children and young people.

The Bromley Families Website can provide information on play schemes running throughout the year in the London Borough of Bromley – www.bromleyfamilies.info

We recognise and respect that parents and carers have the greatest understanding and knowledge of their child’s needs. As such, we seek to enable parents to make educated choices about the type of provision their child can access. As a result of this, we do not recommend or endorse providers, but will discuss options in an impartial and non-judgemental manner. The use of One Page Profiles (see page 16 for examples) and liaising directly with providers at all times can enable children with additional needs and disabilities to access provision inclusively. Here are some examples of inclusive provision across the borough:

- **Superkids Out of School and Holiday Club**
  Age Range 4 - 11 Years
  St. James’s Church Hall, St. James Avenue, Elmers End, BR3 4HF
  Phone: 07732 305454
  Email: superkids@btconnect.com

- **Chucklebox Out of School and Holiday Club**
  Age Range 4 - 11 Years
  Hawes Down Centre, Hawes Lane, West Wickham, BR4 9AE
  Phone: 07801228655
  Email: joy.bassett@ntlworld

- **Coksie Kids Club (St. Peter & St. Paul)**
  Age Range 4.5 - 11 Years
  St. Peter & St. Paul Catholic Primary, St. Paul’s Wood Hill, St. Paul’s Cray BR5 2SR
  Phone: 07739 464336
  Email: coksie@hotmail.com

- **Stingers Kids Club**
  Age Range 0 - 8 Years
  Spitfire Centre
  Church Road
  Biggin Hill
  TN16 3LD
  Phone: 01959 540366
  Mobile: 07889 361200
  Email: honeysnursery@talktalk.net

For a full list of childcare providers in The London Borough of Bromley, please go to: www.bromley.gov.uk/childcare
The Parent Partnership Service can offer independent and impartial information, confidential advice and support to parents of children with Special Educational Needs. The Parent Partnership can provide an independent volunteer to accompany and support parents at meetings with schools and the local authority.

The service can help prevent difficulties from developing into disagreements. Where disagreements do occur the Parent Partnership Service will endeavour to resolve issues locally or, where this has been exhausted, by referring the family to Disagreement Resolution through the London SEN Disagreement Resolution Service. At the same time parents’ right of appeal through the Special Educational Needs & Disability Tribunal (SEND) is explained.

Information leaflets on specific SEN issues are available to download from the Parent Partnership website.
The Parent Partnership Service is managed by the Bromley Children Project.

- Bromley Parent Partnership
  Blenheim Children & Family Centre
  Blenheim Road
  Orpington
  BR6 9BH
  Tel: 01689 881024 Monday to Friday 9am-4pm
  Email: parentparentship@bromley.gov.uk
  Web: www.bromley.gov.uk (keyword parent partnership and choice)

Bromley’s Children and Families Website
Bromley’s Children and Families website may be a useful source of information. The website provides information regarding many organisations, groups and individuals that may be able to offer beneficial services to children, young people, parents and carers within the borough. Within the website there is a section covering some of the services aimed at children with additional needs and disabilities, groups and organisations offering information and advice on childcare options, support, assistance and special educational needs services and ideas for things to do and days out.

- Web: www.bromleyfamilies.info
  Email: bromleyfamilies@bromley.gov.uk

Transition into Adulthood

Bromley’s vision is to enable young people aged 14+ with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to live, learn and work within their local community, achieve sustained progression, resulting in better life outcomes.

Education, Health and Care Plans
Bromley are developing Education, Health and Care Plans that raise aspirations, focus on sustainable outcomes and progress young people towards their long term goals across four key pathways:

- **Community inclusion** – developing friends, relationships and sustainable networks of support
- **Employment** – opportunities to experience the world of work and get paid employment
- **Independent living** – maximising skills to live as independently as possible
- **Good health** – maintaining good health and a healthy lifestyle

Transition Team (14+)

The Bromley Transition Team is responsible for providing care and support services to adults with learning disabilities over the age of 18 living in the London Borough of Bromley who need help to get the most out of their lives or to live safely and independently. They also have a legal duty to provide services to support families in Bromley who care for an adult with learning disabilities. The Transition Team will provide services to the age of 23 and then transfer to the Bromley Adult Learning Disabilities Team, also known as the Assessment and Support Team. The Transition Team can provide information and advice to individuals who may require support. The team will assess the needs of the individual further to establish eligibility in order to access the service. The council uses Department of Health rules to decide if adults over the age of 18 can get help under the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990. The Transition Team will work with the young
person and their family or carer, doctor, community nurse and/or any other health professionals involved, including their teachers and advocates. The young person would be encouraged to tell the team the type of support they need and their hopes and aspirations they want to work towards within the next stages of their lives. For those who regularly provide care for someone who needs help to live at home, they have the right to a Carers Assessment, which can help make caring easier for individuals through professional advice and support. This Carers Assessment can either be done as part of the young person’s assessment or at a separate date.

**Eligibility Fair Access to Care Services** – Once the young person’s needs have been assessed the Transition Team will then decide if they are eligible for help, using guidance set up by the Department of Health, called ‘Fair Access to Care Services’. The young person’s risks to independence will be assessed in four eligibility bands ranging from ‘low’ to ‘critical’. Bromley Council gives priority to those with the greatest needs and can only provide care services to people whose needs are assessed as ‘critical’ or ‘substantial’. If their needs fall below the threshold, the young person will be directed to other sources for help and advice. More information can be found in the booklet ‘Can You Get Help from Social Services?’ available on Bromley Council’s website: www.bromley.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth

- For further information, please contact
  Tel: 020 8461 7149
  Fax: 020 8461 7005
  Email: ldtransition@bromley.gov.uk

**Transition Information Network**
A website for people who support disabled young people in transition to adulthood. Provides information about the transition process that will be useful to professionals, parents and carers. Also a section for young people that talks about the transition process and gives links to helpful resources.

- Tel: 020 7843 6006
  Email: tin@ncb.or.uk
  Web: www.transitioninfonetwork.org.uk

**Bromley College of Further and Higher Education Rookery Lane, Bromley, BR1 8HE**
The college completed a £2.4million project in 2013 to remodel their facilities, enabling young people with more complex needs to access provision within the local college. The college works closely with families and other agencies to enable smoother transition from school to college.

- General enquiries: 020 8295 7000
  Minicom: 020 8295 7097
  Email: info@bromley.ac.uk
  Web: www.bromley.ac.uk

**Disability Employment Advisor**
Advise and information on employment and supported employment options to ensure young people are able to access appropriate work opportunities

- Manager: 020 8271 5162
  28 Elmfield Road, Bromley, BR1 1NX
  Tel: 0845 604 3719 (General Number)
  Direct line: 020 8271 5383

**Preparing for Adulthood Team**
The Bromley Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) Team supports young people with more complex needs aged 14-25yrs to maximise their potential for independence as they prepare for adult life. Bromley has three PfA Coordinators whose role it is to work with eligible young people and their families to develop Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans that meet identified needs and support long term goals. Each PfA Coordinator supports young people and families within a portfolio of Schools, Further Education and Specialist Colleges. Work starts with young people from age 14yrs in their school (Y9) and continues through into further education.

The local authority work in close partnership with schools and the PfA Coordinators make their initial contact with young people and their families through the school’s annual review process.
Skills Funding Agency
Ensuring that people and businesses can access the skills training they need to succeed in playing their part in society.

- Tel: 0845 377 5000

If you are a learner looking for funding or information: Please contact the National Career Service for advice and information on:

- Tel: 0808 100 900
  - Email: info@skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk
  - Web: www.skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk

Open University
Equal People is a pack for people with learning disabilities, staff and their carers in the community, residential, advocacy and educational settings. It can be studied individually, with a partner or in groups. Written accessibly, using pictures, videos and audio tapes. ‘Equal People’ looks at better ways of working together controlling and planning change and what people with learning difficulties can do with the right opportunities. Topics include: finding out about the past and the present, recognising and dealing with discrimination, local policies and services, making choices and good communication. The pack was produced in collaboration with Mencap and People First.

- The Open University, PO Box 197, Milton Keynes, MK7 6BJ
  - Tel: 01908 274066
  - Web: www.open.ac.uk

The Association of National Specialist Colleges
Co-ordinating body to provide direct support to member colleges, which provide education and training for young people with learning difficulties or disabilities. The association also acts as the national voice for specialist colleges.

- Tel: 0117 923 2830
  - Web: www.natspec.org.uk

Nash College (Bromley)
Nash College is an independent specialist college for learners with moderate to profound learning disabilities, including: physical disabilities, complex medical needs and autism. Each student has a ‘living and learning champion’ to support their individual care plan, which is reviewed regularly to meet their ongoing needs.

- Tel: 020 8315 4800
  - Email: admin@nash.livability.org.uk
  - Web: www.nashcollege.org.uk
  - www.livability.org.uk

Skill
(National Bureau for Students with Disabilities)

- Tel: 020 7450 0620
  - Fax: 020 7450 0650
  - Helpline: 0800 328 5050
  - Textphone: 0800 068 2422
  - Email: skill@skill.org.uk
  - Web: www.skill.org.uk
**Community Health Services**

A range of community health services are provided to deliver services to children with additional needs and disabilities and their families. All the services work closely with parents/carers and the Education, Care and Health Services to help them meet the needs of the children at home or in their schools. Services also contribute to the process of statutory assessment.

For more information about Bromley Healthcare go to:
- www.bromleyhealthcare.org.uk
  Global House, Station Approach, Hayes, Kent BR2 7EH
  Tel: 020 8315 8705
- South London Healthcare NHS Trust for details about your local hospital services
  Tel: 020 8302 2678  Web: www.slh.nhs.uk

**Children’s Speech and Language Therapy**

This is a service that offers assessment of children’s speech, language and communication skills and/or swallowing difficulties. Support and advice about the type of therapy that will be most effective to help each child progress will be provided. Referrals to the Speech and Language Therapy Service can be made by parents or any professional with parental consent. To make a referral or for further information please contact Speech and Language Therapy at the Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre.

- Speech & Language Therapy at the Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre, Tel: 020 8466 9988

**Children’s Occupational Therapy Service**

Occupational Therapists see children with physical difficulties to assess and advise them and their carers on developing functional skills necessary for self care and play. Occupational Therapists may also recommend specialist equipment to assist in the child’s development and participation of daily living activities. Referrals for Occupational Therapy should be made by a health or education professional involved with the child and sent to:

- Occupational Therapy at the Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre
  Tel: 020 8466 9988

**Children’s Physiotherapy Service**

Physiotherapists assess children with physical difficulties and delay with their motor development. The therapist will provide advice and treatment, working together the child, young person and family to promote motor skills and functional ability.

Enabling children to reach their full physical potential and ensuring integration with their peers is a main focus.

- The Physiotherapy Team at the Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre. Tel: 020 8315 4700

**Children’s Orthotic Service**

Supplies specialist footwear and splints to children who require additional support for reduction of pain, improved posture and/or mobility and stability of joints to improve function. Referrals are accepted from Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Consultants, GPs and Health Visitors for children 0 -19 who have a Bromley GP.

- The clinic administrator is based at the Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre. Tel: 020 8315 4700

**Bromley Wheelchair and Special Seating Assessment Service**

Provides wheelchairs and seating for children and adults aged 3 years and upwards and will therefore continue to see children for as long as there is a need. Children under the age of 3 who require specialist seating will also be provided for. Referrals are accepted for children registered with a Bromley PCT GP, from Doctors, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and occasionally Clinical Nurse Specialists in the case of terminal conditions. Wheelchairs and buggies are generally provided for long term need (longer than 6 months); exceptions are made for those with terminal conditions. Wheelchairs are not provided for adults or children who require short term loan due to temporary immobility e.g. a broken leg. In this instance families may need to hire a wheelchair from a mobility shop or similar service. Children may be seen in clinic at the Wheelchair Service, school or at home. Regular clinics are held at Marjorie McClure and Riverside Schools, Nash College and the Phoenix CRC.
The Wheelchair Service also has a contracted repair service to repair, maintain, deliver and collect wheelchairs.

The Wheelchair Service is based at Beckenham Clinic.

• Tel: 020 8662 6671

School Nursing (Mainstream Schools)
The School Nursing Team in mainstream schools work with children and young people in every school in Bromley. The team is able to give general health advice and support on many issues such as enuresis, including the assessment of continence needs. If a child takes regular medication whilst at school, or has a medical need, we will work with the parent / carer and the school to make sure the health needs are met and provide an individual care plan for when in school to ensure a child's medical needs are met. We provide training to school staff regarding the emergency administration of medication e.g. buccal Midazolam and adrenalin auto-injectors. Pupils receive the school immunisation programme. This includes the HPV in year 8, BCG (selective) in year 9 and the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccinations in year 10. School Nurses deliver health and lifestyle education in schools across both primary and secondary schools.

• For further information please contact the Head of School Nursing at Global House. Tel: 020 8315 8906

Integrated Children’s Community Nursing Team
The Integrated Children’s Community Nursing Team (ICCNT) is based at the Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre and offers highly skilled nursing care and support to children and their families with additional needs and disabilities within the community setting, as well as specialised school nursing into Riverside and Marjorie McClure Schools. The team’s purpose is to meet the health care needs of pupils and work closely with school staff, other health colleagues, and pupils and their families.

The team plan, implement and evaluate children’s nursing care. Such care may include epilepsy management, enteral (tube) feeding and care, administration of medication and other identified health care interventions. Training is provided to staff to ensure they are competent and confident to carry out specific health care interventions for individual pupils (with consent from their parent/carer). In this way, pupils are enabled to access the curriculum in the fullest way within a safe, positive and happy environment. There is an ‘open door’ policy for parents to come and discuss about health concerns or about any problems they may encounter and receive appropriate support, including referral on to other services or sources of support, the team also provides a wide range of services to children with complex medical needs in the community: This includes:

> Pre-discharge planning to ensure a smooth transition from hospital to home
> Providing specialised nursing care for children in their own home
> Teaching nursing procedures to parents and carers and provision of on-going support
> Additional nursing support to minimise hospital admission where possible
> Nursing support in school, enabling some children with complex health needs to access mainstream schools
> Support to children, young people and their families during end of life care
> Providing information and support for professionals, parents, carers, children and young people

• For further information please contact the ICCNT team at the Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre
  Tel: 020 8464 7578

Community Dietetic Service
This service provides advice to parents and carers of children with disabilities who have feeding problems, poor weight gain or are fed via nasogastric/gastrostomy tubes. Parents should contact their GP, Health Visitor, Community Nurse or other health professional to request a referral.

• Children’s Community Dietitians, Beckenham Clinic
  14 The Crescent, Beckenham BR3 1DU
  Tel: 020 8662 6681
The Community Paediatric Medical Service
The community paediatricians based at the Phoenix Children's Resource Centre provide a range of specialist medical services for children and young people in Bromley. This includes assessment and management of children with neurodevelopmental concerns, emotional and behavioral difficulties, possible attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), autism spectrum disorder and paediatric audiology services for the under-five's and children with special needs.

The community paediatricians oversee medical needs of children in two of the special schools in Bromley. They also provide medical reports for the statutory assessment of Special Educational Needs of children with complex needs.

- For further information please contact:
  Lead Consultant Community Pediatrician
  Tel: 020 8466 9988.

Complex Communication Diagnostic Service
This is a specialist service for diagnostic assessment of children with suspected autism spectrum disorder. It works collaboratively with families, education, voluntary and social services so that early diagnosis can go hand in hand with early support to optimize the development of the child.

Referrals to the Complex Communication Diagnostic Service (CCDS) can be made by the school in consultation with the specialist advisory teachers for social communication difficulties.

- For further information please contact
  Dr Mark O'Leary, Consultant Community Paediatrician
  Tel: 020 8466 9988.

Specialist Nurse Trainer
The Specialist Nurse Trainer works within the specialist school nursing team. Their role is to support inclusion into mainstream school, for children with i) complex health care needs e.g. gastrostomy feeding, oxygen dependence ii) moderate needs e.g. diabetes with blood sugar monitoring and Insulin injections and iii) simple health needs e.g. asthma and Epipen use. Named school staff are trained about complex needs intervention and there is a competency framework to support each intervention. For the moderate needs interventions each child has a care plan and a selection of staff who work with the child will receive training. Parents and child will be involved in this from the start.

- For further details contact
  Tel: 020 8290 7450 Bromley North Clinic
  Main Switchboard Number: 020 8466 9988 (Ext.4676)

Health Visiting Service (based at the Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre)
The primary aim of the Health Visiting Service is to provide evidence based universal and targeted service to all pregnant women and families with infants and children under the age of five years registered with a Bromley GP and those moving in who have evidence of registering with a Bromley GP. They aim to contribute to the reduction of health inequalities, by increasing access to prevention and early intervention services and giving extra support where needed to more vulnerable families with complex health and social needs.

Services are provided on a one to one basis or in a group setting and delivered in the home, in clinics, GP surgeries or Family and Children Centres to deliver health promotion programmes and offer advice and information to parents and carers on all aspects of parenting and child development.

In addition to this a targeted Health Visiting Service is delivered based on additional health needs identified by the client or health visitor which may be highlighted by the use of the Family Health Needs Assessment. The Health Visiting Service is ideally placed to identify and work with vulnerable families in areas such as safeguarding children, Domestic Abuse and Violence, maternal mental health issues including postnatal...
depression and emotional and behaviour issues. It works collaboratively with statutory and voluntary organisations to deliver its services.

- For further information please contact the Head of Health Visiting at Global House. Tel: 020 8315 8906

**Bromley Health Care Dental Service**

The Special Care Dental Service complements your local NHS General Dental Service to provide a comprehensive service for children on referral. The service also cares for those children with special care needs who require an emergency visit and do not have a General Dental Practitioner. Children referred have a variety of special care needs and will benefit from our staff with special skills and experience. They may be:

- Pre-school children with a lot of decay who are not yet manageable in general practice
- Older children who need their care under sedation or General Anaesthetic
- Children with physical, learning, mental health difficulties, or those with complex medical histories
- Children of asylum seekers and/or where communication in English is difficult
- Children in young offenders institutions

- To obtain care for children needing to access a NHS dentist contact: PALS Tel 0800 3895118

For referrals for children meeting the criteria above, please contact:

- Head of Dental Services Global House Tel: 020 8315 8707

**Hollybank Short Break Service**

Hollybank provides enjoyable planned short term breaks and one emergency bed, with the highest standard of care for children with multiple disabilities and complex health care needs in partnership with their families and other carers. This is done by helping to maintain the child or young person with disabilities remain within their family setting. Hollybank offers a 24 hour service, 7 days a week, closing for 12 nights per year to provide full team training plus 2 days over the Christmas period.

- Hollybank Centre Manager Amanda Rees Tel: 01689 894423
Some of Bromley Voluntary Sector partners are supported by grants from the London Borough of Bromley.

**Carers Bromley**
A support and advice giving organisation; assistance for the carer for the family of an adult, whose life is in some way restricted because of the need to take responsibility for the care of someone with a long term illness, disability, mental health difficulties, drug and alcohol abuse, etc.

For siblings at school, funding can sometime be applied towards a school trip/break, as well as, help for costs of overnight trips, etc. Also run a ‘Carers Forum Group’. To be eligible, you must have a family member who has additional needs/requirements. Contact organisation directly by phone to arrange a meeting.

- Carers Bromley, Caritas House, Tregony Road, Orpington, BR6 0DG  
  Tel: 01689 898289  
  Fax: 01689 890850  
  Freephone: 0800 015 7700  
  Email: help@carersbromley.org.uk  
  Web: www.carersbromley.org.uk

**Bromley Young Carers**
Young Carers are young people whose lives are in some way restricted because of the need to take responsibility for the care of someone in their family with a long-term illness, disability, mental health difficulties, etc. Runs alongside ‘Carers UK’.

The service aims to provide:
- Support to young carers in Bromley, including their families
- One-to-one key worker involvement
- Practical support (e.g. short breaks)
- Regular health and information sessions
- Activities in the school holidays

**Bromley Mencap**
Bromley Mencap has now merged with Bromley Scope. Bromley Mencap has developed a range of services to support people with learning and physical disabilities, including their carers. There are 3 support workers (one specialising in supporting children with cerebral palsy) who can help with advice and information on a wide range of subjects surrounding disability issues. Mencap can also assist with ‘form filling’ regarding benefits for children with disabilities and supporting parents in matters around education, transition and individual budgets. The service is collectively called “Family Services”. Childcare and short break projects, support groups, social events and advocacy are also offered. There is a telephone helpline and they also work with individual families, offering information and support, whilst encouraging choice and opportunity on all aspects of the disabilities spectrum.

‘The Bromley Mencap Childminding Network’, offers trained and registered childminders for children with learning disabilities up to 16 years of age. Also offers training courses for registered childminders wanting to work with disabled children. ‘Network Plus’ can support families of children with more severe and complex needs on a one-to-one basis. Contact organisation for further details.

- Rutland House, 44 Masons Hill, Bromley, Kent BR2 9JG  
  Tel: 0208 466 0790  
  Fax: 0208 466 7102  
  Email: enquiries@bromleymencap.org  
  Web: www.bromleymencap.org
Burgess Autistic Trust
(formerly Bromley Autistic Trust)
Burgess Autistic Trust (BAT) provides information and support for those with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and their families, carers and professionals with an interest in ASD. BAT is committed to improving the quality of life for people of all ages on the Autistic Spectrum. There are a range of services offered, from Family Service for children aged up to 18 and their families, through to Services for the over 18s including Outreach Service, Independent Lifestyles and Adult Services. Family Service for the under 18s includes post diagnostic service for parents, a range of parent training including ASD awareness and specific issues such as eating, sleeping, toileting, behaviour management and social stories. Help can be provided with applying for Disability Living Allowance. Personal one-to-one support is also offered, together with a telephone and email support line. There are workshops for children including “Being a Sibling”, “StepUp” (Secondary Transition Education Programme) and “Understanding Myself” for children who are aware of their diagnosis and wish for further factual information. Help can be provided with applying for Disability Living Allowance. Personal one-to-one support is also offered, together with a telephone and email support line. There are workshops for children including “Being a Sibling”, “StepUp” (Secondary Transition Education Programme) and “Understanding Myself” for children who are aware of their diagnosis and wish for further factual information. Help can be provided with applying for Disability Living Allowance. Personal one-to-one support is also offered, together with a telephone and email support line. There are workshops for children including “Being a Sibling”, “StepUp” (Secondary Transition Education Programme) and “Understanding Myself” for children who are aware of their diagnosis and wish for further factual information.

Burgess Autistic Trust Youth Club
Age range 18-25 years. Every Wednesday evening 7-9pm at the student common room at Bromley College, Bromley Common for young people with Aspergers. Providing a social club with discussion on various topics, computers, board games, pool tables and outings during the school holiday period and much more. Transport is not provided.

The Lorna Wing Centre for Autism
A voluntary organisation (affiliated to the National Autistic Society). This is a diagnostic centre only and carries out diagnosis and makes recommendations, including Autism and Aspergers Syndrome.

• Elliot House, 113 Masons Hill Bromley, Kent, BR2 9HT
Tel: 020 8466 0098
Email:lornawingcentre@nas.org.uk

Bromley Parent Voice
Bromley Parent Voice is a forum that aims to be a voice to inform service providers of the needs of children and young people with a disability or additional need and their families.

The forum was established in 2009 as a result of the implementation of the government agenda “Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) in Bromley. AHDC required local authorities to consult with parents as part of the planning and delivery of services for children and young people with an additional need or disability.

The forum facilitates two–way communication between parent, carers and service providers in the London Borough of Bromley and works to provide feedback on services, identify unmet needs and shape decision making and planning for future service provision.

Parent Voice believes that by working co-operatively with local service providers parents can contribute to improvements in the services delivered for children and young people with additional needs and disabilities. Bromley Parent Voice’s membership is made up of residents of the London Borough of Bromley who are parents and carers of a child or young person with an additional need or disability, aged birth to 25.
Parents are Special Too
A support group run by parents for parents, giving carers the opportunity to engage with others to share their experiences. Sessions include informal chats, workshops, guest speakers, including topical discussions on issues around caring for a child with an additional need or disability. Crèche facilities are available during the sessions (must be pre-booked). Sessions run every Friday (except for the 1st Friday of each month and also runs during the half term and the summer break periods. No crèche is available during these times). The group runs at the Blenheim Children and Family Centre (Orpington) and is supported by Bromley Parent Voice and The London Borough of Bromley.

For further details regarding venue, dates and times, please contact the Blenheim Children and Family Centre directly on:
Tel: 01689 831 193
Email: blenheimcfc@bromley.gov.uk

ADHD & ADD Support Group
Tel: 01689 888978
Email: help@carersbromley.org.uk

Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (A.S.B.A.H)
Tel: 020 8659 3060/0845 450 7755
Email: sero@asbah.org

Bromley Relate
A confidential counselling service for any adult individuals and couples who have difficulties in their personal relationships, or marriages. Offers counselling to enhance partner or marital relationships, courses for individuals or groups.

Community House, South Street,
Bromley, Kent BR1
Tel: 020 8315 1999
Email: enquiries@relate-bromley.org

Bromley and District Talking Newspaper Association
‘The Bromley Cassette’ – provision of a local talking newspaper. Available weekly, to visually impaired residents of the London Borough of Bromley. This is a free service.
Tel: 020 8290 0085

Diabetes UK Bromley Support Group
A support group for those with diabetes, whether newly diagnosed or living with it for many years. Activities include a self-help group that meets several times a year. Guest speakers provide forums and presentations on many topics, not just diabetes. A bi-monthly newsletter is produced containing news, views and dates for fundraising events.

Held at:
Bromley Parish Church Rooms (entrance at the west end) St. Peter and St. Paul, Church Road, Bromley, BR2 0EG
Web: bromleyvoluntarygroup.diabetesukgroup.org

Bromley Gypsy Traveller Project (Drop-in)
6 Nightingale Corner, St.Mary Cray,
Orpington, BR5 3PS
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10.00-12.30
Tel: 01689 839052
Email: thebgtp@yahoo.co.uk
Fax: 01689 898082

Bromley Citizens Advice Bureau
Services include advice and casework on a wide range of issues, including advocacy for carers, casework and representation on benefits, housing, debt and benefits advice to carers. All age ranges supported. Contact office for opening times.

Web: www.bromleyCAB.org.uk

CAB Bromley
CAB, Community House,
South Street, Bromley BR1 1RH
Tel: 020 8315 1940
Tel: 0808 808 3555 - Contact A Family (Camden CAB Pilot Project)
Advocacy For All
An independent advocacy project for young people with a learning disability. Working in partnership with people with a learning disability to make their own decisions, communicate their decisions and opinions and take part in community life through self-advocacy and active involvement. Support for ages 14-18. Person Centred Planning Co-Coordinator to support and develop independence for individuals through planning for future choices. Advocacy for All also support the work of the Young Advisers, who are a group of 15 young people with disabilities who make sure that the voice of young people is heard. Their work include working closely with Bromley Council on a variety of projects, including SEN reforms and Short Breaks.

- 241 Main Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 6QS
  Tel: 020 8300 9666
  Email: info@advocacyforall.org.uk
  Web: www.advocacyforall.org.uk

Bromley Sparks
- Web: www.bromleysparks.org

Advocate for Health Project
- Web: www.advocate4health.org.uk

Family Link
Supporting young people with complex and physical disabilities and their families via the provision of leisure opportunities outside of school
- Tel: 07778 655 093
  Email: askfamilylink@gmail.com
  Web: www.familylink.org

Demelza Childrens Hospice
To provide respite care, symptom control, end-of-life care and bereavement support to children and families, where a child has a life limiting or life threatening condition. Ages 0 to 25 years.
- Demelza House, Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 8DZ
  Tel: 01795 845200

- Eltham, 5 Wensley Close, Eltham, London, SE9 5AB
  Tel: 020 8859 9800
  Email: info@demelza.org
  Web: www.demelza.org

Bromley Womens Aid
Can help support women experiencing domestic violence
- Cambridge Chambers, 200-202 High Street
  Bromley, Kent, BR1 1PW
  Tel: 020 8313 9303

The Salvation Army
- London South East Division, 1 East Court, Enterprise Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JF
Can help to support families in need
- 01622 775 000
  Email: londonsoutheast@salvationarmy.org.uk
  Web: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/lse/Bromley

The Hope Foundation
- Bromley Christian Centre, 2 Masons Hill, Bromley, Kent, BR2 9HA
Can help families in crisis (e.g. short term food parcels)
- Tel: 020 8464 3101
  Email: lvance@bccweb.com
  Web: www.bccweb.com

Bromley Borough Food Banks
- The Oak Community Church, 111 Cotmandene Crescent, St. Pauls Cray, Orpington, Kent BR5 2RB
  Tel: 020 8302 7909
  Email: info@orpingtonfoodbank.co.uk
  Web: www.orpingtonfoodbank.co.uk
- 2nd distribution centre based at:
  Bromley United Reform Church, 20 Widmore Road
  Bromley, Kent BR1 1RY
  Tel: 020 8464 7674
  Email: office@bromleyurc.org.uk
  Web: www.bromleyurc.org.uk
There are other organisations in Bromley currently running ‘Food Banks’ for those facing difficulty and hardship. To find your local Food Bank type in keywords ‘Bromley Borough Food Bank’ to find your nearest location point.

**Shaw Trust**
Supporting disabled people to find and sustain employment and to enjoy more independent living.
- Tel: 020 8676 8384/020 8778 9413
  Web: www.shaw-trust.org.uk

**Vibrance**
Supporting families to manage Direct Payments. Access to Personal Assistants (PA’s) via a PA register.
- Tel: 0843 886 0756
  Mob: 07961 485433
  Email: bdp@Vibrance.org.uk
  Web: www.vibrance.org.uk

**Acction-Led**
Engaging with children and young adults with learning disabilities from an ethnic minority, their carers and families in Bromley and other neighbouring boroughs through sporting activities, advice and information, training, coffee mornings, seminars, after school club, music and dance and community integration.
- 387 Upper Elmers End Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 9EH
- Tel: 020 8658 2387
- Mob: 07958 245 514
- Email: info@acction-led.org
  Web: www.acction-led.org

**Friends and Family Forum (FaFF group)**
Monthly term time topical forum group for parents and carers. Alternately runs from Riverside Beckenham and Orpington sites
- c/o Riverside School
- Tel: 01689 870519
  Email: admin@riverside.bromley.sch.uk

**Caspa Club**
*(Children on the Autistic Spectrum Parents Association)*
Parent run initiative for children and young people with Autism and its associated conditions. Caspa is run by parent helpers, a youth leader and volunteers, with some help from other organisations, such as Burgess Autistic Trust (BAT). The service is based at The Link Youth Centre, Midfield Way, St. Paul’s Cray and also holds sessions from The Hawes Down Centre, West Wickham. Caspa runs a variety of clubs and services including: Caspa Tots for under 5’s with parents/carers on Tuesdays during term time between 10am-12pm at the Hawes Down Centre. At The Link Youth Centre: Me Time on Mondays between 12.15pm-2.15pm; Inters for 9-13 year olds for young people with ASD’s and additional needs on Thursdays during term time between 6.30pm-8.30pm; Caspa Juniors for 5-10 year olds on Thursdays during term time between 4.15-6.15; Caspa Seniors for 11-25 year olds on Fridays during term time between 6.30pm-8.30pm. Independent Living Skills Programme for 14-25 year olds runs on Saturdays at various locations (contact for more details). Siblings are welcome for some of the sessions (check with provider). There is a monthly membership fee and transport is not provided for any of the sessions. Activities may include ball games, IT suite, dancing, arts, self-defence class and trampolining, including other interactive provision.
- Tel: 07957 924287
  Email: helen@caspabromley.org.uk
  Web: www.caspabromley.org.uk

**Disability Voice Bromley**
An independent group representing the views of disabled people and their carers who live or work in the London Borough of Bromley. Criteria to join: if you have a physical disability; you are hearing impaired or visually impaired or both. Carers and those who advocate for disabled people, including those involved with voluntary organisations and interested in disability issues can also be supported.
- Tel: 0845 009 2970
  Email: info@disabilityvoicebromley.org.uk
  Web: www.disabilityvoicebromley.org.uk
G.F.S. Platform Penge
An organisation that runs a friendly and supportive environment for young mums in Bromley, age 16-25 to meet. They also offer advice, information and courses covering many issues. An interactive parent and child play session, with cooking classes and a crèche can be provided, for the under fives. G.F.S also runs an outreach support worker service, for young mums in temporary accommodation and for Mums from minority ethnic groups. Contact for further details and information.
• Email: penge@gfsplatform.org.uk
  Web: www.gfsplatform.org.uk

Both Parents Forever (Orpington)
Gives help and advice to parents, grandparents, extended family and children and their rights on all issues relating to divorce/separation or care proceedings.
• Tel: 01689 854343

Streetwise Community Law Centre
Runs a free telephone advice service for young people and anyone who works with young people on all legal issues, including: homelessness, housing problems, being dismissed or unfairly treated at work and many other issues.
• Tel: 020 8663 4747

Somali Well Woman Project (Penge)
The project has been serving the Somali community in Bromley since 1999 and aims to relieve isolation and poverty amongst Somali and other refugee women and their families.
• Tel: 020 8778 5777
  Fax: 020 8778 1166
  Web: www.swwp.org.uk
  Email: info@swwp.org.uk

Give 2 Give
The aim of the charity is to the improve the lives of local people in need across Bromley and the community. Raises funds through charity shops and second-hand furniture shops across the borough. Applications for funding can be made through the small grants programme to local individuals, charities and community groups. Can offer free caravan holidays (usually a week) for Bromley families and individuals who would benefit from a break from their normal routine and who would not normally have the opportunity to have a break. Contact organisation for more details.
• Tel: 01689 638141 or 0845 680 3888
  Web: www.g2g.org.uk

Bromley Welcare
A voluntary agency offering non-statutory social work and family support, helping families in need.
Offers one-to-one support. Ages 0-18 supported.
• 2 North Street, Bromley, BR1 1SB
  Tel: 020 8466 0399
  Fax: 020 8464 0325
  Email: office@bromleywelcare.org.uk
  Web: www.welcare.org

Orpington Epilepsy Support Group
Counselling, support and advice to people with epilepsy, their families, carers and friends. The group arranges meetings with speakers in the field of epilepsy. Meetings held on the third Thursday of each month. Provides telephone and one-to-one support. All age ranges supported.
• Tel: 01689 600068
  Mob: 07950 120080

Petts Wood Playgroup for Children with Special Needs
Petts Wood Playgroup is an independent Registered Charity providing pre-school care and education for children with a wide range of additional needs and disabilities from birth to five years of age. The group is based in Petts Wood and services the whole Borough. It has access to Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, the Sensory Support Service and Educational Psychology through the Early Support Pre-School Panel. Escorted transport is available. Entry to the playgroup can be through the Early Support Pre-School Panel.
• Larry Simpson (Playgroup Leader)
  Tel: 01689 872053
Maypole Project
Provides emotional support to children and young people with complex medical needs including life shortening or life threatening illnesses and their families. Support for professionals working with these families. Also provides activity days for disabled children and their siblings. Workshops and other support available. Contact for more details.
• Helpline: 01689 889889
  Email: info@themaypoleproject.co.uk
  Web: www.themaypoleproject.co.uk

JusB
An independent based community charity, serving young people in Bromley. The charity is all about accepting and taking young people for who they are. Their vision is to provide a brighter future for young people in Bromley, by accompanying young people through thick and thin on their journey to independence.
• Tel: 020 8464 2722
  Web: www.jusb.org.uk

Kent Association for the Blind
Kent Association for the Blind (KAB) - working in partnership with the London Borough of Bromley.
The KAB aims to provide a quality service sensitive to the individual needs of those who are visually impaired at any age, helping them to attain the highest level of independence.
• Tel: 020 8464 8406
  Email: enquiry@kab.org.uk
  Web: www.kab.org.uk

Deaf Access
Support, information and advice to the deaf and hard of hearing, including advocacy service, equipment demonstrations and advice. Parent and toddler group and play scheme. All ages supported.
• Community House,
  South Street,
  Bromley,
  Kent BR1 1RH
  Tel: 020 8315 2550
  Fax: 020 8315 2554
  SMS: 07732 449 349
  Web: www.deaf-access.co.uk
  Email: information@deaf-access.co.uk
  Minicom: 020 8315 2552

The Dyslexia Association of Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich and Lewisham
Support for all ages, for families and carers with specialist and additional needs.
• Community House, South Street,
  Bromley, BR1 1RH
  Tel: 020 8315 2526/0700 050 5055
  Web: www.dyslexiawise.co.uk
  Email: info@dyslexiawise.co.uk

Bromley Y
An agency offering free confidential counselling for young people in the London Borough of Bromley.
Age range 11-23 supported.
• 17 Ethelbert Road, Bromley, BR1 1JA
  Tel: 020 8464 9033
  Web: www.bromley-y.org.uk
  Email: info@bromley-y.org.uk
Some of the benefits are dependent on income and whether a couple or single person is in employment and/or in receipt of other benefits.

- [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)  
  [www.gov.uk/benefitsadvisor](http://www.gov.uk/benefitsadvisor)  
  Benefit Enquiry Line – 0800 882 200

The following outlines the main benefits families of children and young people with additional needs or disabilities may be able to claim, or to have claimed on their behalf.

For more information, contact the Benefits Enquiry Line. Some of the benefits listed below can also be claimed by individuals without a disability depending on your individual circumstances.

- Tax Credit (to top up the earnings of people working on low incomes) or Child Tax Credit - 0845 300 3900 (incl. higher rate of child tax credit – disability element) - you do not have to be working to claim Child Tax Credit.
- Working Tax Credit – a payment to top up the earnings of working people on low incomes, including those who do not have children. Includes a Childcare Element to help with the costs of childcare.
- Child Trust Fund  
  [www.gov.uk/childtrustfund](http://www.gov.uk/childtrustfund)
- Child Benefit  
  Tel: 0300 200 3100
- Family Fund  
  Tel: 08449744099  
  Age 17 or over in receipt of Tax Credits
- Vaccine Damage Payments  
  Tel: 01772 899944
- Disability Living Allowance – Mobility Component can be claimed from age 3 for the lower rate and age 5 for the higher rate. There is an automatic entitlement to higher rate mobility for those who are severely visually impaired. For those in receipt of the higher rate of mobility, an application can be made to purchase a Motability vehicle.
- Disability Living Allowance – Care Component can be claimed from birth.
- Carers Allowance for Carer – aged 16 and over, who spend 35 hours or more per week regularly caring for a severely disabled individual (someone who claims the higher or middle rate care component of DLA and not earning more than £100 per week net).
- Incapacity Benefit (provided the young person is not still in full-time education-21 hours a week of supervised study)
- Income Support (either on its own or to top up any Incapacity Benefits they may get)
- Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Benefit – rent/mortgage interest only
- Independent Living Fund  
  Tel: 0115 945 0700  
  Email: funds@ilf.gsi.gov.uk
- Jobseekers Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) - There are two types of ESA: Contributory ESA (meaning you must have paid some national insurance to qualify) and Income related ESA (meaning how much you get depends on your income and savings) call the Benefits Enquiry Line: Tel: 0800 882 200 or go to www.gov.uk
- Community Care Budgeting Grant or Loan (claimants of Income Support) from The Social Fund, for individuals who cannot afford to pay for the costs of: e.g. fares to visit their child in hospital, bedding, clothing, laundry or safety items. Discretionary payments. Alternative could be a budgeting loan, which must be paid back
- Other Health Benefits: e.g. free prescriptions and for those in receipt of Tax Credits
- Motability is a national UK charity, which helps disabled people and their families, to become mobile, by enabling them to use their government funded disability allowances to lease or buy a car, powered wheelchair or scooter. A grant for larger vehicles can
be applied for from the motability grants department. Young people aged 16-24 on the higher rate of mobility, can apply for a motability grant for driving lessons.

Tel: 0845 456 4566
Web: www.mobility.co.uk

**Universal Credit**

Universal Credit will be introduced from October 2013. The transition from the current system of benefits and Tax Credits to Universal Credit will be gradual and it is expected to be completed by the end of 2017.

Universal Credit will replace:

- income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Child Tax Credits
- Working Tax Credits
- Housing Benefit

**Useful Websites**

- www.gov.uk
- www.gov.uk/benefitsadvisor
- www.direct.gov.uk

**Support and equipment available through the London Borough of Bromley**

- Some of the services and equipment you may be eligible for, through the Education and Care Services on: 020 8466 9988.
  For Social Care Services contact the main switchboard on 020 8464 3333.
- Bromley Housing Department
  Tel: 020 8313 4098
  Email: housingsolutions@bromley.gov.uk
  Web: www.bromleyhomeseekers.co.uk
- **Blue Badge** (from age 3 or younger, can apply if you have to make excessive journeys, e.g. appointments) eligible if on the higher rate of mobility, otherwise a DLA assessment will be required. Tel: 020 8461 7629
- **Disabled allocated parking space.**
  Tel: 020 8313 4777
- **Aids and Adaptations to the home,** e.g., bathing equipment / lifting equipment. Contact Occupational Therapy on: 020 8461 7777
- **Council Tax Benefit** – discount/band reduction for adaptations or aids to the home. Tel: 020 8464 4462
- **Specialist equipment,** e.g. apparatus for the home, highchair, table, chair, walking aids, including specialist shoes. Contact Bromley HealthCare
  Tel: 020 8466 9988
- **Wheelchair service** (also for Major Buggy)
  Beckenham Beacon: 01689 853388 – following referral from OT department
- **Bromley Road Safety Unit** (car seat fitting)
  Contact for details on approved car seat fitters and car seat advisors for child safety seats.
  Tel: 020 8313 4546
  Web: www.bromley.gov.uk/roadsafety
- **Continence Supplies** All children over 4 years of age with disabilities are entitled to assessment for free nappies and continence supplies. Please contact your Health Visitor or School Nurse for more details
- **Taxi card scheme** (through London Borough of Bromley) Tel: 020 8461 7315 or Freedom Pass
- **Congestion charge**
  Web: www.cclondon.com - Exempt for Blue Badge holders
- **Road Tax Exemption** (Vehicle Excise Duty).
  Tel: DVLA 0870 240 0010
- **Toll charges exemption** – Dartford River Crossing
  Web: www.dart-tag.co.uk (those exempt from Road Fund Tax in the UK)
Support from Charitable Organisations

General information

There can be difficulties for all parents when raising a child, but for the most, parents of disabled children will have many more factors to consider when juggling their parenting roles, which can be a full-time job. This can sometimes mean that there is only one income within the household and many families may struggle to make ends meet. Charity organisations have been set up to give advise and support, and supplement some of the shortfalls and financial difficulties that some of us may face without the additional assistance. Most of us have all at some time given to charities and still continue to support such worthy causes.

There is no embarrassment in applying for funding to any of these organisations. They are used to dealing with individuals and families, who from time to time require that little bit of extra help and support. Funding applications to charitable organisations could assist in providing expensive specialist equipment, leisure activities/breaks, educational aids, essential items and other necessities to improve the joys and the quality of life for a child, whilst the benefits can also be shared by other members of the family. Charities play an important role in our society, they can assist by filling in the gaps where funding for specific items or services may not be available, or may be over and above statutory support that may not fully cover the specific requirements at present.

Reasons why people do not apply

- Too embarrassed
- Fear of rejection
- Will not be eligible
- Life is private/do not want exposure
- Limited time
- Not sure where to start
- Have sufficient income

Reasons to apply

- Can be very costly otherwise
- Get the best specialist equipment for your child
- Charities are there to help/support above statutory support

General information - eligibility criteria

To have a child with a learning and/or physical disability (clinical/medical diagnosis and/or proof of disability or need). Some charities only assist or support specific conditions or syndromes. Contacting the relevant charity would be advised in the very first instance where possible. Life shortening or life limiting conditions and illness are mostly able to make applications to ‘wish making’ type charities. Funding is sometimes dependent on household income and other benefits.

Some examples of what could be applied for (this list is by no means exhaustive):

- Driving lessons (for the carer)
- Therapies and activities e.g. horse riding, swimming lessons (for the child)
- Touch screen computer and educational software
- Clothing/bedding
- Sensory toys and other educational aids
- Holidays (UK/abroad) and short breaks (for the carer, family and child)
- Trampoline
- Travel cot and car seats
- Upgrade wheelchair/buggy and other mobility aids
- Sensory garden equipment or sensory room
- Specialist trike/bicycle
- Leisure activities
- Specialist bed/cot (postural care)
- Repairs to the home and decoration (carpeting)
- Rain cover/sun shade
- Table and chair/highchair (support equipment)
• Bathing equipment
• Cooker/washing machine/tumble dryer
• Utility bills (in arrears/trust fund i.e. EDF energy and British Gas)

The majority of the charities/organisations are unable to assist with building works, within the home or garden. Support for Aids and Adaptations to the home may be available through Social Services Occupational Therapy Department - Contact: 020 8464 3333.

What you might need to apply to a charitable organisation (not all items are essential):
• A contact telephone or mobile number
• List of needs (wish list)
• Access to a copier/scanner
• Internet access (optional, but is very useful)
• Potential referees (sometimes needs to be a relevant individual depending on the item or activity specifically applied for, i.e. specialist trike, a reference would preferably need to be obtained from the physiotherapist to support the application)
• Diary
• Household expenditure (incoming/outgoing) and if applicable, last 3 months payslips
• General report and overview of the child’s disability, i.e. a consulting doctor or psychologist report
• Covering letter (where necessary can use standard letter and adapt for item, activity or service required)
• Benefit award letters and notices
• Utility bills and current bank statements
Process of application

1. You will need to draft out a standard letter (or use the example provided) regarding information about the child/person you require assistance for. Two pages are sufficient. This can later be adapted in places, depending on who you are applying to and for what you are applying for.

2. Make a wish list of things that could benefit your child/family. If possible, ask for ideas from the child, family members, friends, etc. The list can comprise of items or an activity that you would otherwise not be able to afford or fulfil without the additional funding and it is over and above what you would reasonably expect to pay for a typically developing child.

3. Decide which organisation can assist you with the relevant item/s or activity. Some organisations state what they can assist you with and what they are not able to. If they do not state, then either contact the organisation for further information, or presume that your wishes may be considered.

4. Once you have decided what you wish to apply for, check to see the process for applying. Some organisations take direct applications from the parent or carer, whilst others only process applications through professionals, i.e. health visitor, consultant, social worker, physiotherapist, occupational therapist or teacher. Sometimes you can phone for an application; alternatively you may be able to download the forms if you have access to a computer. The initial application stage may sometimes take longer to process, as the organisation may need to determine your eligibility for their criteria, or it may need to be discussed during specifically timed panel dates.

5. Potential referees need to be asked if they are willing to assist you with your application, only then may they be used. Where possible, attempts should be made to use alternate referees if there are pressures on a selected few. This is also dependent on what is being applied for, e.g. horse riding lessons, which can be through the physiotherapist and maybe one other, if it is required.

6. Once you start applying to charitable organisations, it is important to keep a record of activities regarding your application. Make a note of letters sent, referrals to be organised, further information required and to be sent, etc. If possible use a day-to-view diary, with enough space to record your tasks, then you can see the progress of each application. Always keep all paperwork relevant to your applications, in one specific file, where possible.

7. Some of the charity organisations may reject your application. It may be demoralising and they really can only say ‘yes or no’, but where one charity rejects, the other could accept, so persevere.

8. You can apply for the ‘same items or activities’ to a few of the charity organisations simultaneously, to increase your chances of receiving your request, but you must ensure that you do not accept ‘two of the same request or wish’, e.g. two holidays or two sensory rooms, etc. If you are accepted from both organisations, then you will need to accept one or the other offer.

9. Part funding may also be applied for, e.g. garden makeover, or an expensive item of equipment that one charity organisation would be unable to fund alone. You can make each charity aware of your aims and outcomes and tell them exactly how your child will benefit from this item or activity ongoing, etc.

10. Some charities offer one-off assistance for items and activities. Others may offer assistance annually, or wherever there is a need (due to hardship or crisis situations). It is imperative that the equipment or service is not already being fully provided or fulfilled through existing statutory services.

11. Re-apply following the criteria given, for annual funding applications (normally from the final award date of your last application.

12. There are children and families in different circumstances to our own. We may think that our situation does not warrant an application for additional funding, but most that are in need, do usually get the help.

The charity can decide whether you meet their eligibility criteria.
List of Charitable Organisations

The Family Fund
Type of grant: Help given must be related to the child’s care needs. May include some funding towards a holiday, leisure activities, laundry equipment, bedding and clothing, transport, computers, play equipment and other items. If eligible, can also choose a direct family holiday as part of your funding, through Haven or Thomas Cook. Cannot provide items which are the responsibility of the statutory agencies such as medical or educational equipment or small items for daily living such as bath aids, which are the responsibility of care services. Additionally, separate from the grant making fund is ‘Family Fund Extra’, offering a variety of discounted goods and services such as electrical products, gift cards and holidays: www.familyfundextra.org.uk Eligibility Criteria: Families with children and young people aged 17 and under who have a severe disability or serious illness. Eligible families must be in receipt of Child Tax Credit. How to apply: Applications can be made by parents, carers or a professional worker (with parental consent). An application form is available from the Fund or applications can be made online. Applications for funding can be made annually.

- Family Fund, Unit 4, Alpha Court, Monks Cross Drive, York, YO32 9WN
  Tel: 08449 744099
  Textphone: 01904 658085
  Fax: 01904 652625
  Email: info@familyfund.org.uk
  Web: www.familyfund.org.uk

Variety Club
Type of grant: There are different guidelines depending on the type of equipment being requested: Mobility aids, such as wheelchairs, computer grants, general grants can be applied for. Cannot fund for trips abroad, medical treatment or research, administrative/salary costs, maintenance or on-going costs, repayment of loans, basic cost of a family vehicle, non-specific appeals. Eligibility criteria: Helps sick, disabled and disadvantaged children and young people, up to the age of 19 years, who reside in the UK.

- Variety Club House, 93 Bayham Street, London, NW1 0AG
  Tel: 0207 428 8100
  Fax: 0207 428 8123
  Email: info@varietyclub.org.uk
  Web: www.varietyclub.org.uk

Whizz Kidz
Type of grant: Mobility equipment for children including trikes, powered wheelchairs, etc. Eligibility criteria: Individuals under 18 years of age with disabilities. How to apply: For further details.

- 1 Warwick Row, London SW1E 5ER
  Tel: 0207 233 6600 or 0800 151 3350
  Web: www.whizz-kidz.org.uk
  Email: info@whizz-kidz.org.uk

Kidz Unlimited
Whizz Kidz Ambassadors Clubs are just like youth groups for young disabled people. Meetings normally take place every 6-8 weeks at schools and other venues. Activities include, playing games, Wheelchair Skills Training, watching DVDs, trips out, etc.

- Email: ambassadors@whizz-kidz.org.uk
  Web: www.kidz-unlimited.org.uk

Cerebra
Type of grant: can apply for computers, holidays in the UK (up to £500), specialist equipment, i.e. car seats, buggies, tricycles, sensory toys and certain therapies within the mainland UK (contact for a list of therapies that can be considered for funding). Unable to fund for home improvements and structural changes, vehicles and repairs, general household items or items that should be provided by other statutory organisations. You can apply for one grant in a calendar year. Eligibility criteria: Cerebra Grant Scheme is aimed at helping children who have disabilities due to a brain related condition, injury or neurological disorder. The condition may be of a physical nature, a learning difficulty, or both. For children 16 and under. How to apply: you can telephone, or write to Cerebra for an application form, or download a copy
from the website. Also has an extensive book lending service (via post) to members (please note membership is free). Cerebra also offer the use of a holiday home in Pembrokeshire to children with additional needs and/or disabilities, including their families. Vallecchia is a large four bedroom dormer bungalow situated in Hook, Pembrokeshire, South West Wales. For further details and to apply, you must complete a booking form, references will be required. Accommodation is free to members of Cerebra.

- Cerebra,
  FREEPOST SWC3360, Carmarthen SA31 1ZY
  Contact details:
  2nd Floor, The Lyric Building, King Street,
  Carmarthen, SA31 1BD
  Tel: 01267 244 200
  Freephone: 0800 328 1159
  Email: grants@cerebra.org.uk
  Web: www.cerebra.org.uk

**The Elifar Foundation**
Type of grant: Provides grants for a wide range of equipment, therapies and home adaptations. Eligibility criteria: Children and young adults. Contact for further details. How to apply: On a form available from the foundation.

- 22 Florentine Way, Waterlooville, Hants, PO7 8JU
  Tel: 0239 226 7996
  Email: info@elifarfoundation.org.uk
  Web: www.elifarfoundation.org.uk

**Newlife**
Type of grant: Can help buy specialist equipment, educational aids, replacement clothing or bedding, if the damage or excessive wear and tear is due to the child's condition. Eligibility criteria: For families with a child/children who have some form of inborn condition. The service exists for those who need help, but who would otherwise face a lengthy wait. Funding can sometimes be given on an annual basis. How to apply: Can download an application form from their website or telephone for an application form and further details.

Newlife Foundation for Disabled Children (previously known as BDF)

- Newlife, Child and Family Grants Service,
  BDF Centre, Hemlock Way, Cannock,
  Staffordshire, WS11 7GF
  Tel: 01543 462 777
  Fax: 01543 468 999

- Nurse Services: 0800 902 0095
  Email: info@newlifecharity.co.uk
  Web: www.newlifecharity.co.uk

**Family Action**
Type of grant: A wide variety of trust funds are administered by the F.A. charity. Fuel bills, clothing, particularly children's clothing and household needs are most commonly requested, but can also help with more unusual needs such as electronic aids. Most grants range between £100 and £200. Eligibility criteria: People in need. How to apply: Contact should be made first by a professional worker (Social Worker, Health Visitor or Voluntary Agency like a Citizens Advice Bureau (C.A.B) using the association's application form. This form can be obtained by sending a SAE marked 'GRANTS' and can also be downloaded from their website. If funds are available and an application can be accepted, further information will be requested from the professional.

- Grants Manager, 501-505 Kingsland Road, Dalston,
  London, E8 4AU
  Tel: 020 7254 6251
  Fax: 020 7241 7459
  Web: www.family-action.org.uk
**Act Foundation**

Type of grant: equipment – provision of specialised wheelchairs, other mobility aids and equipment, including medical equipment to assist independent living. Financial assistance for recreational and respite breaks. Grants are not given for items already bought, or that are provided through statutory services. Eligibility criteria: they will only accept applications from the UK – based individuals and registered charities. How to apply: application forms downloadable from their website and can either be printed or completed online and emailed to the Trust.

- The Grants Manager, The Act Foundation, 61 Thames Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1QW
  Tel: 01753 753900
  Fax: 01753 753901
  Email: info@theactfoundation.co.uk
  Web: www.theactfoundation.co.uk

**Association of Charity Officers (ACO)**

Type of grant: ACO has a membership of over 200 charities providing financial and other assistance. Eligibility criteria: for children and young people, one-parent families, people with physical or learning difficulties or mental health problems. How to apply: provides a helpline to signpost enquirers to the charities most likely to be able to offer them help.

- The Association of Charity Officers, Five Ways, 57-59, Hatfield Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 1HS
  Helpline (managed by Turn 2 us): 0808 802 2000
  Web: www.turn2us.co.uk

**The Attlee Foundation**

Type of grant: one-off grants up to £100 towards travelling costs for therapeutic journeys, e.g. to maintain contact with family members in hospital, prison or rehabilitation a long way from home in the UK. No grants for funerals, holidays, wheelchairs or mobility adaptations. Eligibility criteria: people who have disabilities or are disadvantaged, within the UK. How to apply: apply on a form from the Foundation. Applications must be made through a social worker, Citizens Advice or other welfare agency, to which the cheque will be payable on behalf of the individual. A SAE must be enclosed.

- The Attlee Foundation, 5 Thrawl Street, London E1 6RT
  Tel: 020 7183 0093
  Email: info@attlee.org.uk
  Web: www.attlee.org.uk

**Hospital Saturday Fund**

Type of grant: One-off grants are made, ranging from £25 to £250 towards medical care, medical equipment and appliances, dietary needs, disability aids and help in the home. Grants are not made to anyone without a medical connection. Eligibility criteria: Individuals who live in the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland, who are ill, have a disability or receiving medical care. How to apply: Applications on a form from the correspondent. If the application is made directly from the individual, a supporting letter from a welfare agency, social worker or other third party is appreciated. A third party can also apply on behalf of the individual. Applications are considered every two months.

- K. R. Bradley, Administrator, 24 Upper Ground, London, SE1 9PD.
  Tel: 0207 928 6662
  Fax: 0207 928 0446
  Email: trust@hsf.eu.com
  Web: www.hsf.eu.com

**The Birchington Convalescent Benefit Fund**

Type of grant: one-off grants of £200 towards part-payment of convalescent holidays for children. Eligibility criteria: children under the age of 18 who are chronically ill or recovering from surgery or long term illness. How to apply: applications in writing to the correspondent at any time. Applications should be made through a third party, e.g. a doctor, social worker or hospital staff.

- Rev David Philips, Church Society, Dean Wace House, 16 Rosslyn Road, Watford, WD18 0NY
  Tel: 01923 235111
  Fax: 01923 800362
  Email: admin@churchsociety.org
  Web: www.churchsociety.org
Aldridge Charitable Trust
Type of grant: One-off grants in the range of £100 to £2000 for specific pieces of specialist equipment, such as wheelchairs or special baths (no electrical equipment, household goods or building work). Eligibility criteria: Young people under 18 who have a physical or learning disability and in need. How to apply: On a form available from the correspondent. Applications can be submitted either directly by the individual or through a third party, such as, a social worker.

- Silca House, 3234 Eagle Wharf Road, London, N1 7EB
  Tel: 08444 125 101

Charis Grants
Type of grant: grants to cover arrears of domestic gas/electricity charges and other essential domestic bills and costs. No grants for bills already paid, overpayments of benefits, fines for criminal offences, education or training needs, business debts, debts to central government departments, catalogues, credit cards, loans, medical equipment, aids and adaptations or holidays. Eligibility criteria: domestic customers of British Gas or Scottish Gas. How to apply: application forms are available by writing to the Trust or downloadable from the website.

- PO Box 42, Peterborough, PE3 8X
  Tel: 01733 421 021
  Fax: 01733 421 020
  Email: bget@charisgrants.com
  Web: www.charisgrants.com

Caudwell Charitable Trust
Type of grant: The Trust deals directly with suppliers and service providers to supply equipment and for life-changing treatments. Provides training courses for parents of autistic children through the ‘Caudwell Sunrise Programme’, which is inspired by new research. Eligibility criteria: Pledges to make donations to children under 19, in cases of illness, specialised medical requirements, traumatic needs and dying wishes.

How to apply: Application to be made to the Trust by completing an application form. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Trust initially for advice about suitability of application.

- Minton Hollins, Shelton Old Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 7RY
  Tel: 0845 300 1348
  Email: info@childrentoday.org.uk
  Web: www.childrentoday.org.uk

Buttle UK
Type of grant: one-off grants towards clothes, bedding, essential furniture and household equipment. No grants towards payment of debts, holiday and childcare costs, vehicle purchase, computers or adaptations to the house. Eligibility criteria: children/young people under 21 who are either looked after by adoptive parents, cared for by family members or friends, living with single parents, estranged or orphaned and living independently. The Trust cannot support children who are supported by two caring parents or being looked after by a local authority, or who have been in the UK for less than two years and have either full refugee status or exceptional leave to remain. Not available for those living outside the UK.

How to apply: in writing through a statutory agency or voluntary organisation that is capable of assessing the needs of the child and can also administer a grant on behalf of the Trust.

- Buttle UK, Audley House, 13 Palace Street, London, SW1E 5HX
  Tel: 020 7828 7311
  www.buttleuk.org

Children Today Charitable Trust
Type of grant: grants of up to £1,000 to provide vital, life changing specialist equipment. Can apply for specialist trikes/bicycles, sensory and educational aids. Eligibility criteria: children and young people, who have a disability and/or illness, up to the age of 25.

How to apply: application forms are available from the correspondent.

- A Dodd, The Moorings, Rowton Bridge, Chester, CH3 7AE
  Tel: 01244 335 622
  Fax: 01244 335 473
  Email: info@childrentoday.org.uk
  Web: www.childrentoday.org.uk
The League of the Helping Hand
Type of grants: One-off grants to purchase essential items such as cookers, washing machines, specialist furniture, shoes and clothing, bedding, cots, etc. Eligibility criteria: People who have a learning or a physical disability, or both and are in financial need. How to apply: On a form available from the correspondent, to be submitted through a social worker, or other health care professionals. A SAE must be included. Trustees meet every three weeks to consider applications, although emergency needs can be met more quickly.

- The Secretary, LHH, P.O. Box 342, Burgess Hill, RH15 5AQ
  Tel and Fax: 01444 236 099
  Email: secretary@lhh.org.uk
  Web: www.lhh.org.uk

React (Rapid Effective Assistance for Children with a potentially terminal illness)
Type of grant: One-off (occasionally recurrent) grants for a variety of needs, e.g. washing machines, funeral expenses, telephone bills, specialist toys, carpets, wheelchairs and sensory equipment. React claims to offer grants for a very broad and imaginative range of needs. No grants for holidays abroad or alterations to houses. Eligibility criteria: Children up to 18 years old with a potentially terminal illness and financially disadvantaged. How to apply: An application form should be completed by the individual or through a third party, such as GP, hospital, social/health worker or hospice. They are dealt with as soon as possible and they must be validated by a medical professional and declare the applicants financial status. Applicants are asked to phone if there is any doubt about eligibility.

- Ms Vicky Andreas, React, St Luke’s House, 270 Sandycombe Road, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3NP
  Tel: 020 8940 2575
  Fax: 020 8940 2050
  Email: react@reactcharity.org
  Web: www.reactcharity.org

The Heinz, Anna and Carol Kroch Foundation
Type of grant: no grants for education purposes or holidays. Applications are generally processed each month. Eligibility criteria: provides grants to individuals for all age ranges who are suffering severe poverty and financial hardship and who also have ongoing medical problems, chronic illness and/or disabilities. Also willing to consider recent cases of domestic violence. How to apply: applications must be submitted by a social worker, welfare rights officer, Citizens Advice Bureau, GP/Consultant, or someone working with the client.

- Mrs Beena Astle, Administrator, PO Box 462, Teddington, TW11 1BS
  Tel: 020 8977 5534
  Fax: 020 8977 5547
  Email: hakf50@hotmail.com

Fashion and Textile Childrens Trust
A grant may be provided to support children to reach their full potential with additional needs and disabilities. Applications can be made from individuals who work or have previously worked in fashion retail or in the textiles industry.

- Winchester House, 259-269, Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5RA
  Tel: 020 7170 4117
  Email: anna@ftct.org.uk
  Web: www.ftct.org.uk

Rainbow Trust Children’s Charity
The Charity provides emotional and practical support to families who have a child with a life threatening or terminal illness.

- 6 Cleeve Court, Cleeve Road, Leatherhead Surrey, KT22 7UD
  Tel: 01372 363438
  Email: info@rainbowtrust.org.uk
  Web: www.rainbowtrust.org.uk
Sebastian’s Action Trust
Can provide practical support in many different forms to children with life-limiting illnesses at critical times to families exhausted by the stresses of hospital life and their child’s treatment.

- Tel: 01344 622500
  Email: info@sebastiansactiontrust.org
  Web: www.sebastiansactiontrust.org

Go Kids Go (previously known as The Association of Wheelchair Children)
Eligibility criteria: Not a grant funding organisation as such, but provides a service for children who are wheelchair users and may need to be shown how to use a wheelchair effectively, therefore needing guidance and training. Independence through mobility. Children in receipt of DLA would be eligible, contact organisation for further details.

- 206 Norwood, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 9JA
  Tel: 01482 887163
  Email: roy@go-kids-go.org.uk
  Web: www.go-kids-go.org.uk

The Roald Dahl Foundation
Type of grant: One-off grants of £20-£500 each towards household appliances, utility bills, clothing, beds and bedding, medical alert jewellery, travel and subsistence payments while children are in hospital. Specialised equipment, e.g. sensory toys, car seats, wheelchairs, motability vehicles, vehicle tax and insurance and short break care. No grants are given towards debt (except utility bills) or items that should be provided by statutory sources. Grants are only given towards holidays (within the UK) in exceptional circumstances.

Eligibility criteria: Helps children and young people aged 25 and under who have a neurological or haematological condition and are from a low income family (in receipt of income support, working families’ tax credit or housing benefit). Families not on benefits, but on a low income or whose income has been interrupted by the child’s illness may also be considered.

How to apply: Applications on a form from the Foundation. They must be submitted by a health care professional or a social worker who is willing to see the application through to completion, supplying and confirming the information contained. Applicants need to provide details of income and expenditure, if no state benefits are being claimed.

- Mrs J. Smith, Small Grants Manager, The Roald Dahl Foundation, 81a High Street, Gt. Missenden, Buckinghamshire, HP16 0AL
  Tel: 01494 890465
  Email: enquiries@roalddahlcharity.org

The Margaret Champney Rest & Holiday Fund
Type of grant: Generally one-off grants of between £75 and £250. Grants are not available towards ‘standard’ family holidays. Eligibility criteria: Carers, particularly those caring for a severely disabled child/relative, who needs a break away from the person they are caring for. How to apply: In writing to the correspondent, through a health visitor, social worker, or other care worker. Applications are considered at any time and should include full details of weekly income and expenditure.

- Mrs G. Galvan, General Manager, The Gate House, 9 Burkitt Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 4JJ
  Tel & Fax: 01394 388746
  Email: ogilviecharities@btconnect.com

Lifeline 4 Kids
Type of grant: Cash grants are not given, however specific items are purchased on behalf of the individuals. Eligibility criteria: People under the age of 19 who have disabilities. How to apply: On a form available from the correspondent. Applications can be made directly by individuals or via a social worker or other health care professionals. Applications are considered monthly, although urgent cases can be dealt with more quickly.

- The Trustees, 215, West End Lane, London, NW6 1XJ
  Web: www.lifeline4kids.org
  Contact via website preferred
The Salvation Army
Type of grant: All grants are one-off, in the form of specific practical assistance, such as for needs in the home. Subject to availability the Salvation Army also provides grants for holidays at a local caravan or at their centre in Westgate, Kent. No grants for educational purposes. Eligibility criteria: People in need. How to apply: Apply in writing to the Divisional Director for Business Administration at the nearest regional office (Bromley). Applications must be supported by a caseworkers report from a social agency (e.g. psychologist report), welfare organisation, hospital or medical practice. Information about the applicant’s social and financial background must be included.

• London South East Division, 1 East Court, Enterprise Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JF
  Tel: 01622 775000
  Fax: 01622 7750111
  Web: www.salvationarmy.org.uk

The R L Glasspool Charity Trust
Type of grant: one-off grants, including those for white goods, clothing, holidays, furniture and disability equipment. Some of the items will be supplied directly to the applicant. No grants for loans, debts, bursaries, educational grants, rents/deposits, funeral costs, children's toys, computers for general use, building works, driving lessons/tests. Eligibility criteria: people who are in need, who are on a low income. How to apply: on a form available from the trust made through social care services, citizens advice or through other relevant welfare agencies. Payment is made to the referring agency.

• Second Floor, Saxon House, 182 Hope Street, Walthamstow, EH17 4QH
  Tel: 020 8520 4354
  Fax: 020 8520 9040
  Web: www.glasspool.org.uk

Breathe on UK
Breathe on UK supports the families of children on long term ventilation and aims to give them a better quality of life. Breathe on UK is urgently looking for families of long term ventilated children and also oxygen-dependent children from the ages of 0-21 years in order to fulfil the funding criteria. They can fund urgent respite breaks and family holidays. Can register online. Currently seeking regional ambassadors for raising awareness groups and fundraising.

• Tel: 01258 820274
  Email: victoria@breatheon.org.uk
  Web: www.ftct.org.uk

3H Fund
Type of grant: to assist disabled individuals with a physical or learning disability, their families and carers on a low income, to organise a modest holiday for themselves. Grants are given for the accommodation part of a holiday and the holiday must be taken in the UK. Eligibility criteria: people with disabilities, their families and carers, on a low income. How to apply: you will need to complete an application form, which is available by contacting the Trust, with evidence of disability and low income.

• 3H Fund, 147a Camden Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2RA
  Office Tel: 01892 860207
  Grant Programme: 01892 524703
  Email: info@3hfund.org.uk
  Web: www.3hfund.org.uk

The Farrell Charitable Trust (Liveability)
Type of grant: grants are given for the provision of holidays. Eligibility criteria: people who have physical or mental health issues and those on low incomes. How to apply: in writing to the Trust.

• Tel: 01492 8768333
Wish Granting Organisations

Sometimes the terms ‘life threatening and/or life limiting’ are used within the disability spectrum. Life limiting can mean that potentially the quality of an individual’s life ‘can’ and ‘could’ be compromised, sometimes causing ongoing difficulties and requiring additional assistance and support. Life threatening means that there is a possibility of a shortened life compared to a typically developing individual due to ongoing health difficulties.

Check with the relevant charity for further details, where necessary.

Make a Wish Foundation UK
Eligibility Criteria: Grants the wishes of children aged 3-18 years living with life-threatening/limiting illnesses. How to apply: Anyone who knows a child can apply by writing to Head Office or visiting the website.
- 329-331, London Road, Camberley, GU15 3HQ
  Tel: 01276 405060 • Fax: 01276 405061
  Email: info@make-a-wish.org.uk
  Web: www.make-a-wish.org.uk

Rays of Sunshine Children’s Charity
Eligibility criteria: Aims to make the wishes come true of terminally and seriously ill children (between the ages of 3 and 18). Also buys vitally needed equipment for those children and supporting hospitals, hospices and specialist schools that care for those children. How to apply: Contact the organisation for more information.
- Stuart Rogers, CEO. No 1. Olympic Way, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 0NP
  Tel: 0208 782 1171 • Fax: 0208 782 1173
  Email: office@raysofsunshine.org.uk
  Web: www.raysofsunshine.org.uk

Starlight Children’s Foundation
Eligibility criteria: Grants wishes to serious or terminally ill children (e.g. leukaemia, HIV/Aids, brain tumours, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, severe asthma or epilepsy, sickle cell anaemia, most forms of cerebral palsy) aged between 4-18 years. How to apply: Anyone can refer a child to Starlight by printing off an application form, from the website, or contact organisation for further details.
- Children’s Services Department, Macmillan House, Paddington Station, London, W2 1HG
  Tel: 0207 262 2881
  Fax: 0207 402 7403
  Email: info@starlight.org.uk
  Web: www.starlight.org.uk

Dreams Come True Charity
Eligibility criteria: Fulfils wishes for children who are seriously and terminally ill, aged between 2-21 years. How to apply: Apply by calling freephone 0800 0186013, writing or sending your details via email form on the website.
- Tel: 01428 726330
  Email: info@dreamscometrue.uk.com
  Web: www.dreamscometrue.uk.com

When You Wish Upon A Star
Eligibility criteria: Fulfils the wishes of children with life threatening and terminal illnesses aged between 2-16 years. How to apply: contact the charity for further details.
- Futurist House, Valley Road, Basford, Nottingham, NG5 1JE
  Tel: 0115 979 1720
  Fax: 0115 979 1363
  Email: nottingham@whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk
  Web: www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk

Dial-a-Dream
- 7 Addison Road, Wanstead, London E11 2RG
  Tel: 020 8530 5589
  Email: bob@dial-a-dream.co.uk
  Web: www.dial-a-dream.co.uk
Follow Your Dreams

Raises awareness and sponsors children and young people with learning disabilities to recognise their potential, be ambitious and be provided with the opportunities to follow their dreams into sports, music, drama or the arts.

- Contact details:
  Gwynfa House, Main Road, Church Village, CF38 1RN
  Tel: 01443 218 443
  Email: admin@followyourdreams.org.uk
  Web: www.followyourdreams.org.uk

There are many more charitable organisations operating within the U.K. These are just a few that are listed. Build on your resources and research other organisations you can potentially use to assist you in the future.
Contact-a-Family
Provides useful information and support to families of children with disabilities and/or additional needs. A vast range of resource booklets and information leaflets available on a wide range of subjects relating to disability. Information is also available to parents and carers on request or to view online.

- Freephone helpline: 0808 808 3555
  - Textphone: 0808 808 3556
  - Web: www.cafamily.org.uk or www.makingcontact.org

The Children’s Society
Provides an advocacy, consultation, participation and training services: Advocacy: commissioned to provide individual advocacy/spot purchasing, free health advocacy services and piloting visiting advocacy. Consultation: to develop resources, to develop services for bespoke pieces of work or commissioned services (participation worker).

- Tel: 0845 300 1128
  - Email: supportercare@childrenssociety.org.uk
  - Web: www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Council for Disabled Children
The Council for Disabled Children is an independently elected council, established under the supervision of the National Children’s Bureau. The Council promotes collaborative work between voluntary and statutory organisations that provide services and support for children and young people with disabilities and special educational needs.

- Tel: 020 7843 1900
  - Email: cdc@ncb.org.uk
  - Web: www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk

S.W.A.N UK ( Syndromes Without A Name)
Supporting families of children with undiagnosed medical conditions.

- Tel: 020 7704 3141
  - Email: swan@geneticalliance.org.uk
  - Web: www.undiagnosed.org.uk

Genetic Alliance UK
Information for those with genetic conditions and genetics diseases.

- www.geneticalliance.org.uk

CBIT – Child Brain Injury Trust
A UK-wide charity providing support, information and training about childhood acquired brain injury (ABI). It is not a medical organisation, the focus is on the social impact of childhood acquired brain injury, the way it affects the child and family in relation to their lives now and in the future. Support for both families and professionals.

- Helpline: 0845 601 4939
  - Email: helpline@cbituk.org
  - Tel: 01869 341075
  - Email: info@cbituk.org
  - Web: www.cbituk.org

Treehouse
Improving inclusion, information about inclusive education for children with Autism.

- Tel: 0208 815 5444
  - Email: policy@treehouse.org.uk
  - Web: www.treehouse.org.uk

Network 81
A national network of parents working towards properly resourced inclusive education for children with special educational needs. Offers advice and support to parents on most issues relating to inclusion.

- Email: network81@hotmail.co.uk
  - Web: www.network81.org

Genetic Alliance UK
Working to benefit all people affected by genetic disorders. A national alliance of patient organisations with a membership of over 130 charities that support children, families and individuals affected by genetic disorders.
• Unit 4d, Leroy House, 436 Essex Road, London, N1 3QP
  Tel: 020 7704 3141
  Fax: 020 7359 1447
  Email: mail@geneticalliance.org.uk
  Web: www.geneticalliance.org.uk

Rare Disease UK
• Tel: 020 7704 3141
  Email info@raredisease.org.uk
  Web: www.raredisease.org.uk

Macmillan Cancer Support
Provides information, general advice and support on how to ease financial burden of those affected by cancer.
• 89 Albert Embankment,
  London SE1 7UQ
  Tel: 020 7840 7840
  Fax: 020 7840 7841
  Web: www.macmillan.org.uk
  Freephone no: 0808 808 0000
  Helpline: 0800 500 800

Turn2us
Helping people to find out about the charitable grants and state benefits they may be entitled to by increasing awareness and improving access to the help available.
• Web: www.turn2us.org.uk

Unique - the Rare Chromosome Disorder Support Group
Supports families of children with a rare chromosome disorder. Information to families and comprehensive database.
• Unique, PO Box 2189, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5GN
  Tel: 01883 330766
  Email: info@rarechromo.org
  Web: www.rarechromo.org

Oaasis
Organisation providing information relevant to children on the Autistic Spectrum and Aspergers. Support provided for parents, carers, teachers and other professionals who care for children and young people with a range of learning disabilities. They also produce publications on a wide range of other learning disabilities.
• Tel: 0800 197 3907
  Fax: 01590 622 687
  Email: oaasis@cambiangroup.com
  Web: www.oaasis.co.uk

Downs Syndrome Association
The Down’s Syndrome Association is a national charity dedicated solely to every aspect of living with Down’s Syndrome. All age ranges supported.
• Langdon Down Centre,
  2A Langdon Park,
  Teddington,
  Middlesex TW11 9PS
  Tel: 0333 121 2300
  Email: info@downs-syndrome.org.uk
  Web: www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

Elyons Heart Foundation
Offers emotional and practical support to children with a heart condition and their families. The criteria for assistance can be provided to children, ranging from a one-off operation, to one needing a lifetime of medication and multiple surgery. Services offered include: support groups; information on heart conditions and medical terminology; guides to grants and benefits; assistance and transportation to medical appointments and assistance in organising parental accommodation during the child’s hospital stays.
• Tel: 07944 582 080
  Email: enquires@ehfuk.org
  Web: www.ehfyk.org

National Autistic Society
Leading UK charity for people with autism (including Asperger Syndrome) and their families. They provide information, support and pioneering services and campaign for a better world for people with autism.
• Helpline: 0808 800 4104
  Web: www.nas.org.uk
Down’s Heart Group
Offers support and information to families who have a family member with Down’s syndrome and congenital heart defects.
- Tel: 0844 288 4800
  Email: info@dhg.org.uk
  Web: www.dhg.org.uk

RNID (Royal National Institute for Deaf People)
- Tel: 020 7296 8000
  Fax: 020 7296 8199
  Minicom: 0808 808 9000
  Helpline: 0808 808 0123
  Email: informationline@rnid.org.uk
  Web: www.rnid.org.uk

RNIB (Royal Institute for Blind People)
- Tel: 020 7388 1266
  Fax: 020 7388 2034
  Helpline: 0303 123 9999
  Email: helpline@rnib.org.uk
  Web: www.rnib.org.uk

Action for Blind People
- Tel: 020 7635 4800
  Email: helpline@mib.org.uk
  Web: www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk

Visual Impairment News
- Email: info@partially-sighted.com
  Web: www.partially-sighted.com

Ann Craft Trust
National association for the protection from sexual abuse of adults and children with learning disabilities
- Tel: 0115 9515400
  Fax: 0115 9515232
  Email: ann-craft-trust@nottingham.ac.uk
  Web: www.anncrafttrust.org

The Centre for Child Mental Health
- Tel: 020 7354 2913
  Email: info@childmentalhealthcentre.org
  Web: www.childmentalhealthcentre.org

Genetic Disorders UK
Advice and support for individuals and families affected by genetic disorders
- Tel: 0800 987 8987
  Web: www.geneticdisordersuk.org

KIDS
Information, support and advice for disabled children, young people and their families around the development of inclusion
- Tel: 020 7520 0405
  Web: www.kids.org.uk

Institute of Well Being
Organisation promoting well-being and healthy living, through a range of personal development programmes, private therapies, multimedia and creative arts for all people at all stages in life.
- Tel: 0700 2222 700
  Fax: 020 8659 6659
  Mob: 07973 383 042
  Web: www.theinstituteofwellbeing.com

The Rix Centre
The Rix Centre delivers a rolling programme of research and development projects as well as providing teaching and learning in Multimedia Advocacy and implementing wider Multimedia Advocacy based initiatives across the fields of health, social care and education.
- University of East London, Docklands Campus 4-6, University Way, London E16 2RD
  Tel: 020 8223 7561
  Email: rixadmin@uel.ac.uk
  Web: www.rixcentre.org

Action for Kids
Providing advice, training and learning support and the provision of mobility equipment for young people with disabilities.
- Ability House, 15a Tottenham Lane, Hornsey London, N8 9DJ
  Tel: 020 8347 8111
  Email: info@actionforkids.org
  Web: www.actionforkids.org
Reconstruct (Child/YP advocacy)
Promotes advocacy for children and young people with disabilities and/or additional needs. Self-referral or through a social worker. Age range 5 - 18.
• Tel: 020 8540 0020
  Fax: 020 8417 0883
  Young People Freephone: 0800 389 1571
  Email: yourvoice@reconstruct.co.uk
  Web: www.reconstruct.co.uk

Epilepsy Action
Provides information on epilepsy.
• Tel: freephone helpline: 0808 800 5050
  Fax: 0808 800 5555
  FREEPOST LS0995, Leeds, LS19 7YY
  Email: helpline@epilepsy.org.uk
  Web: www.epilepsy.org.uk

Voice - (advocacy service)
For young people that need advocacy support, freephone helpline.
• Tel: 0808 800 5050
  Email: helpline@epilepsy.org.uk
  Text msg: 07797 805 390

GINGERBREAD Single Parent Helpline
The Helpline provides independent, confidential information and advice. Can advise on benefits, childcare, CSA (Child Support Agency), contact, divorce, employment, housing, maternity rights and lone parenthood.
• Tel: 0808 802 0925
  Web: www.gingerbread.org.uk

The National Society for Epilepsy
Provides information and support to people with epilepsy. Also care for people with epilepsy through medical and residential services, including long term residential care, respite care and rehabilitation services for older people with epilepsy.
• Contact for further details.
  Tel: 01494 601300
  Fax: 01494 871 927
  National epilepsy helpline: 01494 601 400
  Web: www.epilepsysociety.org.uk

The National Centre for Young People with Epilepsy
Includes the Childhood Epilepsy Enquiry Service.
Provides an information service for young people, parents, families and professionals about childhood epilepsy. Signposting to other agencies and further sources of support. They also provide an education service (special study days) including young people and others involved and interested in information regarding epilepsy.
• Tel: 01342 832243
  Fax: 01342 834639
  Email: info@ncype.org.uk
  Web: www.ncype.org.uk

National Children’s Bureau
NCB is a leading national charity which supports children, young people and families and those who work with them. They work with organisations from across the voluntary, statutory and private sectors through their membership scheme, and through the sector-led specialist networks and partnership programmes that operate under their charitable status. The Bureau also produces a range of information and free seminars for parents of children with disabilities.
• Tel: 020 7843 6000
  Email: enquiries@ncb.org.uk
  Web: www.ncb.org.uk/cdc
Parents for Inclusion
Run by parents for parents of disabled children and those said to have special educational needs. Provides an inclusion helpline, works closely with disabled adult trainers to provide ‘Planning Positive Futures’ training for parents and helps parents set up self help groups in schools.

- Tel: 0800 652 3145
  Email: info@parentsforinclusion.org
  Web: www.parentsforinclusion.org

Disabled Living Foundation
The Disabled Living Foundation (DLF) gives insight into issues surrounding disability, particularly focusing on the ways in which disability in society today continues to be a barrier to achievement and equality.

- 380-384 Harrow Road, London, W9 2HU
  Tel: 020 7289 6111
  Fax: 020 7266 2922
  Helpline: 0845 130 9177 - 10am to 4pm
  Textphone: 020 7432 8009
  Web: www.dlf.org.uk
  Email: advice@dlf.org.uk
  Web: www.livingmadeeasy.org.uk - leisure specialist/swimming aids

Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities
The Foundation produces an informative booklet entitled ‘First Impressions’ for families of young children with a learning disability.

- Tel: 020 7803 1100
  Web: www.learningdisabilities.org.uk
  Email: fpld@fpld.org.uk

Useful resources: My Kind of Future - ‘work book to help young people with learning disabilities prepare for the future.’

Instream Partnership
Help and advice exploring the practical and operational issues for people with disabilities employing their own support workers through Direct Payments. A step by step guide to organising your own support and covers essential information, such as funding, recruitment and interview strategies, as well as information on employment law.

- Tel: 01706 642196
  Mob: 07950 107 307
  Email: gary@instream.org.uk
  Web: www.Instream.org.uk
  Online database for Personal Assistants: www.Pamatch.co.uk

SCOPE
Information and support regarding Cerebral Palsy, welfare benefits, schooling, equipment and anything else to do with disability.

- PO Box, 833 Milton Keynes, MK12 5NY
  Tel: 0808 800 3333
  Email: response@scope.org.uk
  Web: www.scope.org.uk

SIBS
Sibs are a UK organisation for people who grow up with a brother or sister with a disability or chronic illness. It provides information and support to siblings and their families through their helpline, website and workshops. Sibs also influences service providers to develop services for siblings and trains professionals to run sibling groups.

- Tel: 01535 645 453
  Email: info@sibs.org.uk
  Web: www.sibs.org.uk
Kidz Aware (previously known as Special Abilities)
An organisation working to promote equality of opportunities, choices and independence for all disabled children and adults across services.
They produce comprehensive manuals covering issues, such as, Special Educational Needs and services available nationally to parents.

- Tel: 01924 385977
  Email: kidzaware@hotmail.com
  Web: www.specialabilities.co.uk

Changing Faces
A national charity that supports and represents people who have disfigurements of the face or body, from any cause. The charity aims to enable people who have disfigurements to develop high self-esteem and self-confidence.

- Tel: 0845 4500 275 or 020 7391 9270
  Email: info@changingfaces.org.uk
  Web: www.changingfaces.org.uk

Breathe on UK
Supports children on long term ventilation (LTV) and their families. Helps families come to terms with this difficult condition by providing an ever-growing support network and essential information on obtaining assistance. LTV is defined as any child who has been on a ventilator for over three months. Any medical questions are handled by Professor Peter Fleming, the charity’s chief medical advisor.

- Tel: 01258 820 274 (fax available)
  Web: www.breatheon.org.uk

Cystic Fibrosis Trust
Information, advice and support for people with cystic fibrosis, their families, friends and professionals.

- Tel: 020 8464 7211
  Email: enquiries@cftrust.org.uk
  Web: www.cftrust.org.uk

The Challenging Behaviour Foundation
Provides information and support to parents/carers and professionals caring for individuals with severe learning disabilities and challenging behaviour. Links to useful resources.

- Tel: 01634 838 739
  General Enquiries Family support Line:
  Tel: 0845 602 7885
  Email: info@thecbf.org.uk
  Web: www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk

Disability Rights UK
Specialises in information on disability-related income issues, such as, social security benefits.

- Tel: 020 7250 3222
  Fax: 020 7247 8765
  Helplines: Disabled Students: 0800 328 5050
            Independent Living: 0300 555 1525
  Email: enquiries@disabilityrightsuk.org
  Web: www.disabilityrightsuk.org

RADAR (Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation)
National campaigning organisation and resource for Radar Key for accessibility to disabled toilets and changing places facilities.

- Tel: 020 7250 3222
  Textphone: 020 7250 4119
  Email: enquiries@disabilityrightsuk.org
  Web: www.radar-shop.org.uk
WellChild Helping Hands
Helps families caring for a sick or disabled child by completing practical support projects such as, a garden makeover or bedroom refurbishment.
• Tel: 0845 458 8171
  Web: www.wellchild.org.uk

PCSP (UK) Ltd – protecting body shape
Provision of postural care and suppliers of sleep systems. Postural care can sometimes reduce the need for invasive surgery and improve the overall body shape. Provides a network of information and training for families and professionals.
• Tel: 01827 304 938
  Mob: 07729 552 626
  Email: info@posturalcareskills.com
  Web: www.posturalcareskills.com

Simple Stuff Works
An information exchange and networking on night time positioning.
• Tel: 01827 307 870
  Mob: 07813 033 561
  Email: admin@simplestuffworks.co.uk
  Web: www.simplestuffworks.co.uk
Working Rights for Parents and Carers

Day Nurseries in the Borough of Bromley
Details of the above can be obtained from Bromley Families Website.
  • Web: www.bromleyfamilies.info

Working Families
The Working Families website has a wealth of information for parents of disabled children who want to get back to work. Working Families also run two help lines for questions about combining paid work and caring for disabled children.
  • Tel: Helpline 0207 0253 7243
  Low income families legal helpline 0300 012 0312
  Email: advice@workingfamilies.org.uk
  Web: www.workingfamilies.org.uk

Annual Leave
The minimum amount of paid holiday (annual leave) employers must give is 28 days per annum for someone who works a five-day week. Part-time employees are entitled to the proportionate amount of time that full-time employees who do the same job receive.

Emergency Leave
You do not have an automatic right to take time off for your child’s medical or other appointments. If it is an ‘emergency’ you can ‘take time off for dependents’. This is the right to take unpaid leave for a short period of time. You must let your employer know what is happening and get back to work as soon as you can.

Working Families has information about your rights to time off. For more information contact:
  • Tel: 020 8017 0072
  Web: www.workingfamilies.org.uk

Flexible Working
If you have worked for your employer for at least 26 weeks (including any period of maternity leave), as the parent of a child under 17 (or under 18 if the child has a disability and is in receipt of DLA), you have a right to ask your employer for a change in your working arrangements to help you care for your child. The sort of changes you might ask for include:
> Part-time work
> Change in hours
> Compressed hours
> Term-time working
> Working from home
> Job sharing

Your employer must consider your request, but can turn it down if they have genuine business reasons for doing so. You must apply in writing, e.g. a letter or e-mail. Your employer might have a standard form (ask the HR department). You need to cover the following points: statutory rights, eligibility, the changes you are seeking and what effects these changes may have on your employer. State how these problems can be overcome and when you want these changes to start. Allow at least 12 weeks for a response, ensure you date your application.

If your application is turned down you have 14 days to appeal in writing and your employer must arrange an appeal meeting. If your request is turned down again, you should observe your organisations grievance procedure or seek assistance from an outside body, such as an employment tribunal.

The Working Families free legal helpline offers parents and carers confidential advice, remember to advise them that your child has additional needs. Free advice for Dads on Paternity leave, time off for appointments and family emergencies and family-friendly hours are also available.
  • Tel: 0800 013 0313
Parental Leave
You have the right to take parental leave if you have worked for your employer for at least one year. You have the right to take 18 weeks per child until the child is 5 (up to age of 18 if the child has a disability). Part-time employees are entitled to a proportionate amount. Your employer does not have to let you take 13 or 18 weeks at once, however you can take it a day at a time for a disabled child. You should give your employer 21 days notice for parental leave. Parental leave is unpaid, although in some cases other benefit support may be claimed when parental leave is taken.

Extended Parental Leave
Parents of babies due on or after 3 April 2011 (and parents of adopted children after that date) have the right to share the mothers maternity leave. This means that a mother can transfer the last six months of leave to the father if she decides to return to work before the end of his paternity leave (which only lasts for two weeks)

- Web: www.workingfamilies.org.uk

Other sources of information from working families can be found on the government website and the ACAS website:

- Web: www.gov.uk
  Web: www.acas.org.uk
For further information regarding activities and places to visit access Bromley’s online directory of community and voluntary services: www.infobromley.org

To find your local leisure centre, go to: www.bromleymytime.org.uk

**Contact relevant leisure centre to confirm attendance as dates and times are subject to change.**

**Darrick Wood (Orpington)**
- Lovibonds Avenue, Orpington, BR6 8EW
  - Tel: 01689 857 021
  - Baby Splash and Junior Splash Sessions Tuesday 9.30-10.30am, Saturday 3-4pm and Sunday 9-11.30am.

**Pavilion Leisure Centre (Bromley)**
- Kentish Way, Bromley, BR1 3EF
  - Tel: 020 8313 9911
  - Toddler Splash on Wednesday mornings 11-12pm. Buzz Zone activities – soft play (check times and availability during non-term times).

**The Spa Leisure Centre (Beckenham)**
- 24 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, BR3 4PF
  - Tel: 020 8650 0233
  - Family Splash Sessions Wednesday 3-4pm and Thursdays 12-1.30pm. Buzz Zone activities – soft play (check times and availability during non-term times).

**West Wickham Leisure Centre**
- Station Road, West Wickham, BR4 0PY
  - Tel: 020 8777 5686
  - Family Splash Sessions for children with additional needs and disabilities and their families (fourth Saturday of every month 4.30-5.30pm) Contact the centre to make a booking.

**Walnuts Leisure Centre (Orpington)**
- Lynch Gate Road, Orpington, BR6 0TJ
  - Tel: 01689 870 533
  - Exclusive play sessions for Burgess Autistic Trust and Bromley Mencap (second Wednesday of every month 4-6pm)

**Biggin Hill Memorial Pool**
- Church Road, Biggin Hill, TN16 3LB
  - Tel: 01959 574468
  - Toddler Splash Saturday and Sundays 10-4pm.

**Bromley Youth Support Programme**
Activities and support aimed inclusively within the community for all young people aged 6-19 (up to 25 years of age for young people with an additional need or disability) who live in the London Borough of Bromley. There are various local youth hubs across the borough. Contact for more information.

- North Hub at Castlecombe Youth Centre, Castlecombe Road, Mottingham, SE9 4AT
  - Tel: 020 8857 0047
- East Hubs at The Link Youth Centre, Midfield Way, St. Pauls Cray, Orpington, BR5 2QL and at The Duke Centre, Park Road, St. Mary Cray, BR5 4AS
  - Tel: 020 8300 6749
- South Hub at Spitfire Youth Centre, Church Road, Biggin Hill, TN16 3LB
  - Tel: 01959 574835
- West Hub at Streetwise Youth Centre, 1-3 Anerley Station Road, Anerley, SE20 8PY
  - Tel: 020 8778 4300
  - Also at: Darrick Wood Youth Group, Broadwater Gardens, Farnborough, BR6 7UA
    - Tel: 07950 815063
- The Phoenix Youth Group Disability Provision, Hawes Down Centre, Hawes Lane, West Wickham, BR4 9AE
  - Tel: 07940 577646
• Mobile Team at Central Library, 1st Floor, Central Library, High Street, Bromley
  Tel: 07983 430396
  Admin tel: 020 8466 3067
  Email: youthactivities@bromley.gov.uk
  Web: www.bromley.gov.uk/youthactivities

Avenues Trust – Sports and Active Lifestyles
‘leisure and activity guide’
• Tel: 0800 292 2762
  Web: www.avenuesgroup.org.uk

Gambado - Beckenham
Children can play and learn in a safe, clean and fun environment. The parent or carer of a child with a disability can enter free if proof can be provided. Offers exclusive play sessions for children with additional needs and disabilities. Contact provider for more details.
• Tel: 020 8662 6910
  Web: www.gambado.com/clubs/beckenham

Bromley Youth Music Trust
• Southborough Lane, Bromley BR2 8AA
  Tel: 020 8467 1566
  Email: contact@bymt.co.uk
  Web: www.bymt.co.uk

Churchill Theatre
• High Street, Bromley BR1 1HA
  Tel: 0844 871 7627
  Email: customercare@theambassadors.com
  Web: www.atgtickets.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THEATRE VENUES:
Go to: www.officallondontheatre.co.uk

Aqua Kids
Specialist swim sessions for children with additional needs and disabilities.
• Marjorie McClure, Hawkwood Lane, Chislehurst BR7 5PS
  Tel: 07802 660516
  Email: l.crust@ntlworld.com

Ability Sports
Multi-sports after school club for children with pan disabilities of primary age, including; Boccia, Seated Volleyball, Basketball, Zone Hockey, Football, Polybat, Teeball, Benchball, Table Tennis and Cup Stacking.
• Tel: 07947 700262
  Email: susanj.bushell@btinternet.com
  Web: www.abilitysports.co.uk

OE Bears (Old Elthamians CC)
Cricket for children with additional needs and disabilities. A structured training programme with qualified and specialist coaching, regular matches and tournaments.
• Foxbury Avenue, Perry Street, Chislehurst
  Tel: 020 8694 0347
  Mob: 07751 133 190
  Email: francesdriscoll@hotmail.com

Bromley Lions Club
Social and leisure activities for all age groups throughout the year.
• Sundridge Park Working Mens Club, Burnt Ash Lane Bromley, Kent, BR1 5AF
  Tel: 020 8857 6624
  Email: MikeDeves69@gmail.com

British Disabled Angling Association (BDAA)
Developing opportunities for disabled people of all ages and abilities to access the activity of fishing in the UK.
• Tel: 01922 860912
  Email: terry@bdaa.co.uk
  Web: www.bdaa.co.uk

Angling Trust
The trust represents all game, coarse and sea anglers and angling in England.
• Tel: 0844 770 0616
  Email: admin@anglingtrust.net
  Web: www.anglingtrust.net
Thames 21
Waterway Walks (a guided nature walk) are specially created for people with disabilities. Thames 21 also runs canoe trips for disability groups using Katakau’s, which have been designed with safety in mind, to provide a water-based activity with a high safety level and a lower fear level than existing crafts.
- Tel: 020 7248 7171
  Email: info@thames21.org.uk
  Web: www.thames21.org.uk

Wheels for Wellbeing
Supporting disabled people to cycle.
- Tel: 020 7346 8482
  Email: info@wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk
  Web: www.wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk

Mousetrap Theatre Projects
Exploring London Theatre – subsidised tickets for those who would normally be unable to access the theatre due to financial difficulties. Runs school workshops to support the theatre experience.
- Tel: 020 87240 6606
  Email: ffn@mousetrap.org.uk
  Web: www.mousetrap.org.uk

Riding for the Disabled Association
- New Lodge Centre, Mottingham Lane, Eltham, SE9 4RW

Southborough Lane Stables
- 321a Southborough Lane, Bromley, Kent BR2 8BG
  Tel: 020 8467 5236
  Web: www.southboroughstables.blogspot.co.uk

Remark
Offers support to deaf, hard of hearing and blind individuals through events and initiatives and the sponsorship of individuals and clubs.
- 18 Leather Lane, London, EC1N 7SU
  Tel: 020 7269 2620
  Email: info@remark.uk.com
  Web: www.remark.uk.com

Kidspace (Croydon)
Indoor adventure park. Includes two multi-sensory zones. Discounted for blue badge holders and up to two helpers. Fun for all children.
- Tel: 020 8686 0040
  Email: croydonenquiries@kidspaceadventures.com
  Web: www.kidspaceadventures.com

Ayda Centre
African Youth Development Association – supporting the development of all young people, including those with Special Educational Needs and their families, through training and support activities. Runs workshops, intergenerational activities and support for isolated parents and young people. Facilitated parenting workshops and mentoring scheme for parents and carers.
- Ayda Centre, Day Lewis House, 2nd Floor, 324-340 Benson Lane, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 7EQ
  Tel: 020 8239 0009
  Email: admin@aydacentre.org
  Web: www.aydacentre.org
Christmas Tree Farm
Wide range of farm animals to see and interact with, through feeding and in some cases, make contact with. Food is available to purchase on the farm. Tea gardens, café and farm shop on site.
- Cudham Road, Downe Village, TN16
  Tel: 01689 861 603 – opening times: Monday - Sunday between 10.00 - 4.30pm.
  Web: www.xmastreefarm.co.uk

Godstone Farm and Play Barn
Tilburstow Hill Road, Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8LX
Tel: 01883 742 546 – opening times: Monday – Sunday between 10.00am - 5.00pm (last admission 4.00pm).
Web: www.godstonefarm.co.uk

Bromley Mencap Family Fun Days and Cinema Mornings
During half-terms and summer holidays, events and outings are organised for all the family. This includes cinema mornings at the Beckenham Odeon, exclusively for children with learning and physical disabilities and their families. The lights are kept on during the showing. Wheelchairs and buggies can access the building and can be taken into the film area.
- Details can be obtained through the Bromley Mencap Bulletin or contact: Gill Eldridge on 020 8466 0790.

Beckenham and Penge Gateway Club
A social club for people with learning disabilities. The Club meets up for regular activities, such as, disco, games, puzzles, coach outings, meals out and trips to the theatre.
- Royston School, High Street, Penge, SE20
  Thursdays between 7.30-9.30, aged 16+.
  Tel: 07914 678409
  Email: info@thegatewayclub.co.uk
  Web: thegatewayclub.co.uk

Orpington and Bromley Gateway Club
A social club for people with learning disabilities.
The club provides special events and takes members on outings, holidays, theatre trips, discos, sporting activities, quizzes and many more social activities, to improve member’s quality of life and provides a welcome break for parents and carers.
- Crofton Halls, York Rise, Orpington BR6 8PR
  Fridays between 7.30-9.30, aged 16+.
  Tel: 0794 980 2993
  Email: enquiries@orpingtongatewayclub.org.uk
  Web: www.orpingtongatewayclub.org.uk

Magpie Dance Youth Group
The Magpie sessions are fully inclusive and aimed at people with a wide range of learning needs, aged 14+.
These sessions are held weekly during school term-times (places must be booked in advance) Wednesdays 4.30pm - 6.30pm at the United Reform Church, 20 Widmore Road, Bromley, BR1 1RY. Sessions for 14-25 year olds - free). Saturdays – 10.30am-12.30pm.
- Harris Academy Bromley, Lennard Road, Beckenham, BR3 1QR.
  Tel: 020 8290 6633
  Email: admin@magpiedance.org.uk
  Web: www.magpiedance.org.uk

Scouts
9th West Wickham Specialist Needs Group
Friday (during term-time) 6.30-7.30pm – Cubs (8-11 years) and Scouts (11-13 years); 7.45-9.00pm – Explorers (14-18 years) and Network (19-25 years). Age groups 5-13; 14-18. Criteria is any child, or young adult with a disability. The group is run along the lines of traditional scout groups, but with a programme favoured to meet the needs and abilities of all members.
The emphasis is on encouragement, participation, teamwork and fun.
- Hawes Down Centre, Hawes Lane, West Wickham BR4 9XE
  Contact Caroline Stone on Tel: 020 8462 4432
The Phoenix Youth Club
Runs a social evening for young people with disabilities on Mondays and Thursdays between 6.45pm-9.15pm (low cost entry).
Age range 10-25 years.
- The Phoenix Youth Club, Hawes Down Centre, Hawes Lane, West Wickham BR4 9XE
  Tel: 01689 827601

Special K Club for Children with Disabilities
Co-ordination skills through ball games.
Age range 5-18. Saturdays only.
- Park Langley Club
  Contact Tel: 020 8658 9028 (Jill Saunders)

Sharks Swimming Club (Mottingham and Eltham)
The Sharks is a competitive club providing swimming training sessions, as well as swimming lessons for people with physical and learning disabilities. The aim is to encourage fitness in athletes and help them to take part in gala competitions, up to international level.
Opening times 7-9pm Mondays and 8.30-9.30 Thursdays. Meeting location at the Eric Liddell Sports Centre, Grove Park, Mottingham and The Eltham Leisure Centre, ages: from 6+
- Tel: 07913 075373 (Marilyn Peciuch)
  Email: sharkssc@hotmail.co.uk
  Web: www.sharksofmottinghamdisabilityswimming.org.uk

Bromley Valley Specialist Needs Gym Club
(St. Pauls Cray)
Monday 6-7pm under 16 years; 7-8pm ages for over 16 years (ages 14-25) Gymnastics club for young people with disabilities
Contact centre for further details.
- Bromley Valley Gymnastics Centre, Chipperfield Road, St. Pauls Cray, Orpington, BR5 2QR
  Tel: 020 8300 5964
  Email: specialneeds@bromleyvalley.co.uk

Uphill Ski Club (St. Pauls Cray)
The Uphill Ski Club aims to provide the possibility for people with a disability to participate in winter sporting activities; e.g. skiing. Skiing may be either standing or sitting. The Uphill believe in SKI-ABILITY not disability. Specialist adaptive equipment is provided where necessary. Skiers work with volunteer ‘adaptive techniques’ instructors, assisted by ‘ski-buddies’. Also promoting snow sports for people with disabilities with the potential for Special Olympic opportunities.
Contact for further details.
- Tel: 020 8460 4060
  Email: the_dempsey@hotmail.com
  Web: www.uphill-skiiing.org.uk

Green Dragon & Biggin Hill Judo Club
Judo classes for children with balance and co-ordination difficulties. Please contact for further details. Introductory first session.
Green Dragon (Orpington): Sunday 10-11.30am
Biggin Hill Judo Club: Wednesday at Biggin Hill Squash Club: ages 5-10 at 7-8pm; ages 10-25 at 8-9.30pm Saturdays at Darwin Leisure Centre: all ages (family) 3.30-5pm
Little Dragons Judo Club: Saturday afternoon ages 3-5 years at 2.15-3.15pm
- Tel: 01959 542 898
  Web: www.dojudo.co.uk
Conquest Swimming Club
(Spa - Leisure Centre)
Provides voluntary instruction in swimming and relative water recreation. All ages and disabilities acceptable with doctors certificate. Membership required.
Session Times: 2.00-4.00pm
• Apply in writing:
  Mrs Carol Davis, Honorary Secretary,
  26 South Bank, Westerham, Kent TN16 1EN

Useful link: Cinema Exhibition Association Ltd
If you require information regarding subtitles and audio description for cinema visits.
• Web: www.yourlocalcinema.com
Applications can be made for a national card that can be used to verify that the holder is entitled to one free ticket for a person accompanying them to the cinema. Terms and conditions of use apply.
• Tel: 0845 123 1292
  Email: info@ceacard.co.uk
  Tel: 0845 123 1296
  Web: www.ceacard.co.uk
Activity Holidays and Summer Camps

Barracudas Activity Camp
Age Range 4.5 - 16 Years
- Bromley and Chislehurst camp
  Tel: 0845 123 5299
  Email: info@barracudas.co.uk
  Web: www.barracudas.co.uk

Disability Challengers
An independent charity providing inclusive play and leisure for disabled children and young people. A wide range of activities for disabled children and young people from the age of 2 - 25.
- Tel: 01483 579390
  Email: information@disability-challengers.org
  Web: www.disability-challengers.org

Woodlarks Campsite
Camping for adults and children with disabilities
- Tilford Road, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 3RN
  Tel: 01252 716 279
  Web: www.woodlarks.org.uk

Chicks
- Moorland Retreat, Brentor, Tavistock
  PL19 0LX
  Tel: 01822 811020
  Email: coordinator@chicks.org.uk
  Web: www.chicks.org.uk

Over The Wall
Over The Wall is an activity camp run during the Easter and summer holidays. The camp is for children aged 8-17 and their families, who are affected by serious illnesses and have been in and out of hospitals, away from school and home, facing treatments and living with uncertainty. Often their illness has taken away their confidence and created unease amongst their peer group, where they may feel they do not ‘fit in’. The camp helps children to rebuild their confidence and self-esteem by encouraging them to take part in a range of activities, such as, kayaking, climbing, horse riding, archery, arts and crafts, technology and media, as well as a weekly talent show and the opportunity to make new friends. The children are supported during the week by the ‘Over The Wall’ staff, on a one-to-one basis and finally, a paediatric specialised team of doctors and nurses are on hand to provide support to the children where necessary.
Contact organisation for further details.
- Tel: 02392 477 110
  Web: www.otw.org.uk

The Scout Holiday Homes Trust
Holiday homes within the UK for families with children with disabilities/additional needs and/or on a low income. All caravans and chalets have wheelchair access and full facilities.
Contact for further details.
- Tel: 020 8433 7290
  Fax: 020 8433 7184
  Web: www.holidayhomestrust.org.uk
  Email: scout.holiday.homes@scouts.org.uk

Phab Projects
Phab provides and runs a range of projects enabling people with and without disabilities the opportunity to spend a week together at accessible venues and to be involved in a wide range of activities. Each project provides a safe, supportive environment which builds self-confidence, encourages young people to learn new skills and make new friends. Projects are offered at a subsidised rate.
> Inclusive Living Experiences – for ages 9-16 (guideline only) with or without a disability – individuals, brothers and sisters, friends, small groups and carers can attend. You do not need to be a Phab Club Member.
> Skills for Independence Project – residential short stay projects specially designed for young people aged 18-25. A wide variety of educational and vocational experiences are incorporated into activities and adventures to provide an informative experience.
> Tall Ships Sailing Project – sailing with Phab and the Jubilee Sailing Trust. For young people 16 and over, with or without a disability. The ship is fully accessible and everyone is encouraged to take part in all aspects of sailing the ship.

> Volunteering Opportunities – for ages over 16. Must attend a training day and obtain a Disclosure and Barring Check (DBS – which can be processed by Phab at no cost to the applicant).

For further information and to request an application form for a ‘Phab project’:

- Tel: 01254 824784
  Email: Rebecca.hargreaves@phab.org.uk
  Web: www.phab.org.uk

Happy Days Children’s Charity
Type of grant: one-off grants ranging from £25-£1,000 for family holidays in the UK (occasionally children who are terminally ill are funded for an overseas holiday).

Also theatre and day trips to various locations and theatre workshops.

Eligibility criteria: grants the wishes of children aged 3-17 years living with life-threatening illnesses.

How to apply: applications on a form available from the families and groups bookings welfare officer. Calls welcome for advice and guidance.

- Cody House, 90-100 Collington Street, Luton, LU1 1RX
  Tel: 01582 755999
  Email: happydayscharity@yahoo.co.uk or enquiries@happydayscharity.org
  Web: www.happydayscharity.org

The National Holiday Fund for Sick Children
Type of grant: provides holidays to Florida.

Eligibility criteria: chronically or terminally ill children and temporarily or permanently disabled children aged 8-18 years. Does not provide grants. How to apply: contact the charity for details of how to apply.

- PO Box 318, Great Yarmouth, NR29 4WT
  Tel: 01493 731 235
  Email: nhfoffice@aol.com
  Web: www.nhfcharity.co.uk

Footprints
Provides permanent accommodation for five children and short break care for up to eight children aged from 3 to 17 years old.

- Tel: 01227 780796
  Email: admin@miles-of-smiles.org.uk
  Web: www.miles-of-smiles.org.uk

Links to Accessible Holiday information:
- www.disabledholidaydirectory.co.uk
- www.accessibletravel.co.uk
- www.disabledholidayinfo.org.uk
- www.disabledaccessholidays.com
- www.holidayswithhelp.org.uk

European Health Insurance Card
When travelling abroad.

- Email: ehicenquiries@ppa.nhs.uk
  Web: www.ehic.org.uk
Educational Grants

The Fishmongers’ Company’s Charitable Trust
Type of grant: one-off grants given to help with school fees only. Maximum grant £1,800. No grants for further education or other education related costs. Eligibility criteria: children/young people up to 19 years in need of financial assistance to complete schooling. Preference is given to children of single parent families and/or those, with a learning difficulty or disability. How to apply: applications in writing by the individual, or by the parent or guardian for children/young people under 18.

- The Clerk, Fishmongers’ Hall, London Bridge, London, EC4R 9EL
  Tel: 020 7626 3531
  Fax: 020 7929 1389
  Email: enquiries@fishhall.org.uk
  Web: www.fishhall.co.uk

The National Deaf Children’s Society
Type of grant: grants to families of hearing impaired children for purchasing essential equipment to assist in the educational or social development of their child. This excludes equipment that is normally provided by the education, health or care services. Eligibility criteria: deaf children between the ages of 4 and 18 who are in full-time education. How to apply: contact organisation for further details and an application form.

- 15 Dufferin Street, London, EC1Y 8UR
  Family info & helpline: 0808 800 8880
  Email: ndcs@ndcs.org.uk
  Minicom: 020 7490 8656
  Web: www.ndcs.org.uk

Snowdon Trust
Type of grant: bursaries are awarded annually for a period of one or two years. Grants are normally between £250 & £2,000 and are given toward costs such as, books, equipment, travelling and interpreters. Foreign students studying in Britain are eligible. Help with fees/living expenses may be given in exceptional circumstances.

Eligibility criteria: students with physical disabilities (including sensory disabilities) between 17 and 25 years of age who are in or about to enter further or higher education or training within the UK and due to their disability have financial needs which are not met elsewhere. How to apply: application available online or contact administrator.

- The Snowdon Award Scheme, Unit 18, Oakhurst Business Park, Southwater, West Sussex RH13 9RT
  Tel: 01403 732 899
  Email: info@snowdontrust.org
  Web: www.snowdontrust.org

The Dyslexia Research Trust
Type of grant: for assessments and specific periods of tuition based on educational needs related to dyslexia. A contribution from the individuals’ family is required: a minimum of £25 for an assessment and £3 per week for tuition. Eligibility criteria: school-aged children who have dyslexia, living in England & Wales and are from families on a low income. Applicants from families where joint income is in excess of £22,000 are not considered, without exceptional circumstances.

How to apply: in writing via the Dyslexia Action Centres in England & Wales.

- Assessment. Education. Training. Dyslexia Research Centre, 179a Oxford Road, Reading, RG1 7UZ
  Tel: 0118 958 5950
  Email: drtorthoptics@yahoo.co.uk
  Web: www.dyslexia.org.uk

Gardner’s Trust for the Blind
Type of grant: grants are mainly for computer equipment, music equipment or course fees. No grants for loan repayments.

Eligibility criteria: all ages. Registered blind or visually impaired individuals, living in England & Wales. How to apply: applications in writing can be submitted either directly by the individual or by a 3rd party, but must be supported by a 3rd party who can confirm disability.

- Angela Stewart, Boundary House, 117 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6PN
  Tel: 020 7253 3757
Meningitis Trust
Type of grant: one-off and recurrent grants towards specialist aids and equipment, re-education and specialist training.
Eligibility criteria: UK residents in need with meningitis or meningococcal diseases, or who are disabled as a result of meningitis. How to apply: apply via 3rd party professional such as, a GP, nurse, health visitor or social care worker, who must request the application form. Clients can also contact the helpline on 0845 6000 800 requesting information regarding the application process.

- Peter Kirby, Fern House, Bath Road, Stroud GL5 3TJ
  Tel: 01453 768000
  Fax: 01453 768001
  24 Hour Helpline: 0808 8010388
  Email: grants@meningitis-trust.org
  Web: www.meningitis-trust.org

The British Kidney Patient Association
Type of grant: one-off grants to help with books, clothing, fees, living expenses, study abroad, childcare and other essentials for students and people starting work.
Eligibility criteria: all renal patients of UK nationality. No grants for payments of loans, court fines or bills already paid. How to apply: applications via a social care worker or medical staff, on a form available from the Trust. Applications are considered daily.

- Borden,
  Hampshire GU35 9JZ
  Tel: 01420 541 424
  Web: www.britishkidney-pa.co.uk

The Rivendell Trust (Crescendo)
Type of grant: grants of up to £1,000 towards books, equipment and travel, but not usually for course fees. No grants for people starting work, overseas students, refugees or people studying abroad.
Eligibility criteria: British students studying in UK, who have started a course and are unable to complete it. Preference given to disabled people. How to apply: apply by contacting the Trust, who will send out a form and also give applicants further information about how to apply.

- The Trustees, Bircham Dyson, Bell, 50 Broadway, London SW1H 0BL

Helena Kennedy Foundation
Type of grant: one-off bursaries of £1,500. Eligibility criteria: students at further education college in the UK who are progressing to university education and who are disadvantaged. Applicants must be intending to undertake a higher diploma or undergraduate degree for the first time. How to apply: applicants are encouraged to visit the website, or send a short email to enquire about eligibility criteria. The application deadline is the end of March.

- Room 243a University House,
  University of East London, Stratford Campus,
  Water Lane, London E15 4LZ
  Tel: 0208 223 2027
  Email: enquiries@hkf.org.uk
  Web: www.hkf.org.uk
## Useful Websites and Other Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Website/Service</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Family Carers Network (NFCN)</td>
<td>Tel: 07747 460727 Email: <a href="mailto:info@familycarers.org.uk">info@familycarers.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.familycarers.org.uk">www.familycarers.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care.com</td>
<td>Care providers locally. Email: <a href="mailto:membercareuk@care.com">membercareuk@care.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.care.com">www.care.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Rail Enquiries</td>
<td>Tel: 0845 748 4950 Web: <a href="http://www.nationalrail.co.uk">www.nationalrail.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Eastern Rail</td>
<td><a href="http://www.southeasternrailway.co.uk">www.southeasternrailway.co.uk</a> For travel assistance: 0800 783 4524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFL – Transport for London</td>
<td>Tel: 0343 222 1234 Web: <a href="http://www.tfl.gov.uk">www.tfl.gov.uk</a> For travel assistance: 01732 770099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For up to date accessibility and travel information:</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7737 2339 Web: <a href="http://www.transportforall.org.uk">www.transportforall.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Grants – extensive directory of grant giving charities and organisations.</td>
<td>Web: <a href="http://www.disability-grants.org">www.disability-grants.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turn 2 Us</td>
<td>Information on accessing benefits and grants. Tel: 0808 802 2000 or 020 8834 9200 Web: <a href="http://www.turn2us.org.uk">www.turn2us.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and electrical charity</td>
<td>Tel: 01689 860504 Email: <a href="mailto:orpington@debra.org.uk">orpington@debra.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.debra.org.uk">www.debra.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Heat helpline</td>
<td>Tel: 0800 336699 Web: <a href="http://www.homeheathelpline.org.uk">www.homeheathelpline.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Accident Prevention Trust</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7608 3828 Email: <a href="mailto:safe@capt.org.uk">safe@capt.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.capt.org.uk">www.capt.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Resources
- **Department for Education**
  - www.education.gov.uk
- **Safeguarding Bromley**
  - Tel: 020 8461 7816
  - Fax: 020 8313 4324
  - Email: bscb@bromley.gov.uk
  - Web: www.bromleysafeguarding.org
- **Parentline - for information and advice for all parents.**
  - Tel: 0808 800 2222
  - Web: www.familylives.org.uk
- **Helpcard** – for individuals with literacy difficulties for a variety of reasons, can be issued with a card to present to front line staff or receptionists to ask for discreet help with form filling or reading.
  - Tel: 020 8315 8711
  - Email: his@bromleyhealthcare-cic.nhs.uk
  - Web: www.bromley.gov.uk/helpproject
- **Eagle House Group ‘Autism in the Home’ workshops for parents and carers**
  - Tel: 0845 485 1464 or 020 8712 6748
  - Email: parent.support@eaglehousegroup.co.uk
  - Web: www.eaglehousegroup.co.uk
- **SEN magazine**
  - Tel: 01200 409802
  - Email: info@senmagazine.co.uk
  - Web: www.senmagazine.co.uk
- **Preparing for Adulthood**
  - Web: www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk
- **Robust Training**
  - Neetraina apprenticeships
  - Assisting with vocational opportunities with considerations to individual needs of the young person.
  - Tel: 0845 555 444
  - Email: info@robusttraining.com
  - Web: www.robusttraining.com
- **National Rail Enquiries**
  - Tel: 0845 748 4950
  - Web: www.nationalrail.co.uk
- **South Eastern Rail**
  - www.southeasternrailway.co.uk
  - For travel assistance: 0800 783 4524
- **TFL – Transport for London**
  - Tel: 0343 222 1234
  - Web: www.tfl.gov.uk
  - For travel assistance: 01732 770099
- **For up to date accessibility and travel information:**
  - Tel: 020 7737 2339
  - Web: www.transportforall.org.uk
- **Disability Grants – extensive directory of grant giving charities and organisations.**
  - Web: www.disability-grants.org
- **Turn 2 Us**
  - Information on accessing benefits and grants.
  - Tel: 0808 802 2000 or 020 8834 9200
  - Web: www.turn2us.org.uk
- **Furniture and electrical charity**
  - Tel: 01689 860504
  - Email: orpington@debra.org.uk
  - Web: www.debra.org.uk
- **Home Heat helpline**
  - Tel: 0800 336699
  - Web: www.homeheathelpline.org.uk
- **Child Accident Prevention Trust**
  - Tel: 020 7608 3828
  - Email: safe@capt.org.uk
  - Web: www.capt.org.uk
Pain indicator resources
Web: disdattool.wordpress.com

4Children is a national charity that offers a free consultancy service for local authorities.
Web: www.4children.org.uk

Employers Forum on Disability
An employers’ organisation focusing on the workplace.
Web: www.employers-forum.co.uk

National Childcare charity
Web: www.daycaretrust.org.uk

Right from the start
Web: www.rightfromthestart.org.uk

National Portage Association
Web: www.portage.org.uk

Early Intervention
Web: www.earlyintervention.org.uk

The prime minister’s official website, including up to date information regarding policies and latest news.
Web: www.pm.gov.uk

Bromley Children and Young People Partnership
Email: childrens.trust@bromley.gov.uk
Web: www.bromley.gov.uk/childrenstrust

British Youth Council
Web: www.byc.org.uk

Disability access guides throughout the UK, including the London Borough of Bromley
Tel: 01438 842710
Web: www.disabledgo.com

Hear By Right
Supporting organisations in putting young people’s voice at the heart of service delivery.
Tel: 0116 242 7350
Email: nya@nya.org.uk
Web: www.nya.org.uk/hearbyright

AIM is a national support group run solely by parents, carers and adults on the autistic spectrum. Provides support and information for parents, carers and young people.
Web: www.autism-in-mind.co.uk

Home Farm Trust (HFT) – a national charity supporting people with learning disabilities.
Web: www.hft.org.uk

L’arche UK - A federation of communities for people with learning disabilities.
Web: www.larche.org.uk

Norah Fry Research Centre – undertakes research on learning disability services.
Web: www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/NorahFry/

Respond
UK based charity supporting people with learning disabilities, their relatives and professionals affected by trauma and abuse.
Web: www.respond.org.uk

JobCentre Plus
Department for Work & Pensions, offering support for job seekers.
Web: www.dwp.gov.uk/jobcentreplus

Valuing People
Government website for learning disability.
Web: www.valuingpeople.gov.uk

Voice UK
Supports people with learning disabilities that have experienced abuse or crime.
Web: www.voiceuk.org.uk

Paradigm – advocacy service
Email: peterk@paradigm-uk.org
Web: www.paradigm-uk.org

Interconnections Multi-Displinary Information Service
Email: interconnections.services@virgin.net
Web: www.icwhatsnew.com

The Friendly Resource Company
The Friendly Resource Company is run by and for parents with learning disabilities. They provide clear, accessible information using DVDs and other resources available to purchase. There is also information about health, parenting and forums for people with learning disabilities, their carers and professionals.
Web: www.friendlyresources.org.uk
Dial UK Advice centres throughout the UK run by and for disabled people of all ages. They provide advice and information on all aspects of living with a disability e.g. benefits, mobility, equipment, community care and holidays.
Tel: 01302 310 123
Web: www.dialuk.info

Special Friends Online
Online community for people with learning disabilities, their parents, carers and volunteers. To share your experiences to help others.
Web: www.specialfriendsonline.com

Partners in Policy Making
Many issues relating to disability awareness and advice on inclusive educational needs within mainstream settings.
Tel: 051 287 7977
Email: mpip@btconnect.com
Web: www.partnersinpolicymaking.co.uk

Social Policy Research Unit (SPRU)
Information on current research in social policy, especially health and social care, poverty, welfare and social work.
Web: www.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/index.html

Inspiring Inclusion
Provides training and consultancy for organisations, communities and individuals.
Web: www.inspiringinclusion.com

Personal Budget management. Assistance and support on a wide variety of other issues
Web: www.shop4support.com

Care Co-Ordination Network UK
Networking organisation promoting and supporting care co-ordination or key working for disabled children and their families in the UK.
Tel: 01978 821 324
Web: www.ccnuk.org.uk

BASE (British Association of Supported Employment)
The association aims to raise awareness of supported employment, represent the sector on a collective basis, inform member networks and supports providers and employers by being a hub of information and good practice.
Tel: 01204 880 733
Email: admin@base-uk.org
Web: www.base-uk.org

In – Control
Works in partnership with citizens, government, charities and commercial companies. Helps individuals to work towards ‘Self-Directed Support’.
Tel: 01564 821 650
Email: admin@in-control.org.uk
Web: www.in-control.org.uk

PINNT
A support group for parents receiving artificial nutrition therapy.
Web: www.PINNT.com

Parent Pages
Wide range of information for parents on education, days out, holidays, toys, events, forums and advice.
Web: www.parentpages.co.uk

Daycare Trust
National childcare charity that provides information for parents, childcare providers, employers, trade unions, local authorities and policy makers.
Tel: 020 7940 7510
Email: info@familyandchildcaretrust.org
Web: www.daycaretrust.org.uk

Tamba – twins and multiple births association
Provides information and support networks for families of twins, triplets and more.
Tel: 0800 138 0509
Email: asktwinline@tamba.org.uk
Web: www.tamba.org.uk
Handsel Trust (Peter Limbrick & Gudrun Limbrick Spencer), publications, up to date news and conferences. Sleep Practitioner training to support those practitioners working with families whose children have sleep issues. Email: enquiries@handselproject.org.uk Web: www.handseltrust.org

Disability and Independent Living Insurance
Tel: 0500 432 141
Email: admin@fishinsurance.co.uk
Web: www.fishinsurance.co.uk

Net Buddy
Practical tips and ideas from parents, carers, teachers and therapists, people with everyday experience of learning disability.
www.netbuddy.org.uk

Fatherhood Institute
Information and advice promoting good practice in public services and industry, in recognition of fatherhood. DADS INCLUDED – an online community for sharing expertise in father-inclusive practice
Web: www.dadsincluded.org
www.fatherhoodinstitute.org

London Recumbents - Specialist bike hire and shop in Dulwich Park.
Tel: 020 8299 6636
Web: www.londonrecumbents.co.uk

United Utilities Trust Fund Information
The Trusts can provide grants to individuals to cover the payment of gas and electricity debts and other essential household bills or costs.
Tel: 01733 421 060
Email: contact@uutf.org.uk
Web: www.uutf.org.uk

Insulation and Boiler Grants
Can provide a grant to cover the cost of installing cavity wall insulation, loft insulation, solid wall insulation or a brand new boiler. Green Deal grants are also available to those in receipt of certain benefits. The grant can provide heating and insulation improvements and is available for both private home owners or for those renting from a private landlord. Call for further details and eligibility. Web: www.insulationgrants.info

NHS Direct
For immediate and confidential health advice and information, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Tel: 0845 46 47 or 111 (for non-emergency medical enquiries)
Web: www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

NSPCC
Helpline: 0808 800 5000
Web: www.nspcc.org.uk (National)

Makaton
Derived from British Sign Language (BSL) Makaton uses signs, symbols and speech to help with learning or difficulties to communicate.
Tel: 01276 606 760
Email: info@makaton.org
Web: www.makaton.org

BILD (British Institute of Learning Disabilities)
Tel: 0121 415 6960
Email: enquiries@bild.org.uk
Web: www.bild.org.uk

United Kingdom’s Disabled People’s Council
Campaigning organisation for various disability issues.
Tel: 07792 538 208
Email: ceo@uksdpc.net
Web: www.uksdpc.net

Employers Forum on Disability
Tel: 020 7403 3020
Fax: 020 7403 0404
Textphone: 020 7403 3020
Email: efd@employers-forum.co.uk
Web: www.employers-forum.co.uk
Speakability
For individuals with speech impairments.
Tel: 020 7261 9572
Fax: 020 7928 9452
Helpline: 0808 808 9572
Email: speakability@speakability.org.uk
Web: www.speakability.org.uk

Centre for Accessible Environments
Consultancy agency advising both individuals and professionals towards providing reasonable adjustments and adaptations to specific environments.
Tel: 020 7822 8232
Fax: 020 7822 8261
Technical helpline: 090 6751 6663
Email: info@cae.org.uk
Web: www.cae.org.uk

Leonard Cheshire Foundation
Advice and support on disability issues.
Tel: 020 3242 0200
Fax: 020 3242 0250
Email: info@lcdisability.org
Web: www.leonard-cheshire.org

WaterScheme (Vulnerable Customer Tariff)
If you have a water meter at your property, with your bills based on the amount of water you use, and you are within the category of customer that the Government has defined as ‘vulnerable’, you may be able to reduce your bill. Under this tariff you will pay either your metered bill or a ‘daily average charge’, which is set each financial year, whichever is lower. Households that may be eligible for this tariff are those in receipt of specific means-tested state benefits and who either, have a large family (with at least three dependant children under the age of 19 and for whom child benefit is being received) or have a member of the same household who has a medical condition that requires the use of extra water. Eligible customers need to re-apply on an annual basis. For more information: www.thameswater.co.uk, where you can download the ‘Vulnerable Groups Tariff (WaterSure Scheme)’ information leaflet, or contact: 0845 9200 888 and ask for a copy. If you water is provided by an alternative supplier, please check with them directly as they may offer a similar scheme.

Equality and Human Rights Commission
Web: www.equalityhumanrights.com
Helpline: 0808 800 0082
Textphone: 0808 800 0084

Equality Advisory Support Service website:
www.equalityadvisoryservice.com

Bliss
For information regarding premature babies and tube feeding, amongst other useful sources.
Tel: 020 7378 1122
Fax: 020 7403 0673
Helpline: 0500 618 140 Web: www.bliss.org.uk

StepChange (previously called The Consumer Credit Counselling Service)
Provides free confidential and impartial advice regarding debt and debt management.
Tel: 0800 138 1111
Web: www.stepchange.org

Help with health costs
www.dh.gov.uk/helpwithhealthcosts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Tax Credit (incl. disability element)</td>
<td>Tel: 0845 300 3900 Web: <a href="http://www.directgov.uk">www.directgov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carers Allowance</td>
<td>Tel: 0845 608 4321 Web: <a href="http://www.directgov.uk">www.directgov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Badge (London Borough of Bromley)</td>
<td>Tel: 020 8461 7629 Web: <a href="http://www.bromley.gov.uk">www.bromley.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Living Allowance</td>
<td>Tel: 0845 712 3456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Centre Plus - Incapacity and Income Support</td>
<td>Tel: 0800 055 6688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motability</td>
<td>Tel: 0800 694 9000 Web: <a href="http://www.mobility.co.uk">www.mobility.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homecare Direct</td>
<td>Tel: 0845 061 9000 Email: <a href="mailto:info@homecare-direct.co.uk">info@homecare-direct.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.homecaredirect.co.uk">www.homecaredirect.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel information</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7222 1234 Textphone: 020 7918 3015 TFL – journey planner: Web: <a href="http://www.tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner">www.tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner</a> TFL/Dial-a-Ride Travel Assistance Scheme Tel: 020 7027 5822 Web: <a href="http://www.travel.assistance@tfl-buses.co.uk">www.travel.assistance@tfl-buses.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dial-a-Ride</td>
<td>Applications and general enquiries made by borough of residence. Tel: 020 7394 5210 Email: <a href="mailto:dar.generalenquiries@tfl.gov.uk">dar.generalenquiries@tfl.gov.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.travel.assistance@tfl-buses.co.uk">www.travel.assistance@tfl-buses.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congestion Charging</td>
<td>Exemptions for disabled individuals/drivers. Tel: 0845 900 1234 Web: <a href="http://www.tfl.gov.uk">www.tfl.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFSTED and the National Standards</td>
<td>The Office for Standards in Education and Childcare Provision and Ofsted aim to provide reassurance that children are cared for by people and within premises that are suitable, including the relevant adaptative modifications required for educational environments. Tel: 08456 40 40 40 Web: <a href="http://www.ofsted.gov.uk">www.ofsted.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidscape</td>
<td>Anti-bullying charity, offering a helpline for parents and carers of bullied children, training sessions and publications. Ages 5-13; 14-18. 2 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0DH Tel: 020 7730 3300 Helpline: 08451 205 204 Web: <a href="http://www.kidscape.org.uk">www.kidscape.org.uk</a> Email: <a href="mailto:info@kidscape.org.uk">info@kidscape.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oily Cart</td>
<td>Theatre Production Company for specialist needs. Creates theatre for young people with complex disabilities (profound and multiple learning disabilities and the autistic spectrum). For shows and performances, all year round. Tel: 020 8672 6329 Web: <a href="http://www.oilycart.org.uk">www.oilycart.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pets as Therapy</td>
<td>Organisation which can provide therapeutic visits, through the interaction of animals, such as, dogs and cats. Visits take place, usually, within a school or hospital. Tel: 01844 345 445 Email: <a href="mailto:reception@petsastherapy.org">reception@petsastherapy.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.petsastherapy.org">www.petsastherapy.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dogs for the Disabled
Aims to create life-changing partnerships by training ‘assistance dogs’ to help disabled people lead a fuller, more independent life. For children, adults and individuals with physical disabilities (from age 7).

A special project for children on the autistic spectrum (from age 3), includes a residential course and most costs are covered for the upkeep of the dog. Contact for further details and eligibility criteria. Can also register dog to access restricted areas.
Tel: 01295 252600
Email: info@dogsforthedisabled.org
Web: www.dogsforthedisabled.org

Other similar organisations:
**Assistance Dogs** - Campaigns to improve the access rights of guide dog and other assistance dog users.
Tel: 01844 348 100
Web: www.assistancedogs.org.uk

**Hearing Dogs** - British charity that trains and places canines with persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, at no cost.
Web: www.hearing-dogs.co.uk

**Support Dogs** - Trains dogs to assist and support their disabled owners with their specific disability.
Tel: 0114 261 7800
Web: www.support-dogs.org.uk

**Guide Dogs for the blind and visually impaired.**
Tel: 0118 983 5555
Web: www.guidedogs.org.uk

**Canine Partners** – Can train assistance dogs to transform the lives of people with disabilities.
Tel: 0845 658 0480
Web: www.caninepartners.co.uk
Suppliers of Specialist Equipment

**The Inclusive Assistive Technology Handbook**
Hardware and software for computer and other programming specialist needs.
- Inclusive Technology Ltd – Riverside Court, Huddersfield Road, Delph, Oldham, OL3 5FZ
  - Tel: 01457 819790
  - Fax: 01457 819799
  - Email: inclusive@inclusive.co.uk
  - Web: www.inclusive.co.uk

**Rompa….the 6th Sense**
Meeting the sensory needs of all generations through the provision of sensory resource products.
- Rompa, Goyt Side Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S40 2PH
  - Tel: 01246 211 777 or 0845 230 1177
  - Fax: 01246 221802
  - Web: www.rompa.com
  - Email: customerservice@rompa.com

**Handmade Places Ltd**
Playground equipment for sensory learning and fun.
- Unit 14, Bordon Trading Estate, Old Station Way, Bordon, Hampshire, GU35 9HH
  - Tel: 01420 474111 or 0844 980 1661
  - Fax: 01420 474222
  - Email: info@handmadeplaces.co.uk
  - Web: www.handmadeplaces.co.uk

**Fledglings**
Product solutions for children’s specialist needs.
- Wenden Court, Station Approach, Wendens Ambo, Saffron Walden, CB11 4LB
  - Tel: 0845 458 1124
  - Fax: 0845 280 1530
  - Email: enquiries@fledglings.org.uk
  - Web: www.fledglings.org.uk

**McLaren Major Buggy/Equipment**
Suppliers of accessories for mobility equipment.
- Tel: 01327 842 662
  - Email: customerserviceinfo@maclaren.baby.com

**TFH UK**
Specialist sensory equipment, games and toys for all ages.
- 5-7, Severnside Business Park, Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire, DY13 9HT
  - Tel: 01299 827820
  - Fax: 01299 827035
  - Email: info@tfhuk.com
  - Web: www.specialneedstoys.com

**SpaceKraft Ltd**
Sensory products and specialist equipment for indoor and outdoor use.
- Titus House, 29, Saltaire Road, Shipley, West Yorkshire, BD18 3HH
  - Tel: 01274 581007
  - Fax: 01274 531966
  - Email: enquiries@spacekraft.co.uk
  - Web: www.spacekraft.co.uk

**Xtra**
Products – social awareness/diversities resource products.
- Goyt Side Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S40 2PH
  - Tel: 0845 880 1477/01246 210 422
  - Fax: 0845 800 1977/01246 210500
  - Web: www.xtra-cat.com
  - Email: sales@xtra.com

**Rackety’s**
Suppliers of ‘adaptive’ clothing for children and adults, outdoor and indoor clothing and accessories.
- Tel: 01538 381430
  - Email: sales@racketys.com
  - Web: www.racketys.com
Tough Furniture
Company that makes furniture suitable to withstand challenging behaviours.
- Tel: 01588 674340
  Fax: 01588 674 341
  Web: www.toughfurniture.com

Puppets for Education
Learning through play and active engagement.
- Tel: 0845 017 9645
  Web: www.puppetsforeducation.co.uk
Written and devised within the Specialist Support and Disability Service working to improve services for children and young people with disabilities and their families by the London Borough of Bromley.

**The London Borough of Bromley**
Education and Care Services
Civic Centre
Stockwell Close
Bromley
BR1 3UH
Tel: 020 8464 3333
Web: www.bromley.gov.uk

**Specialist Support and Disability Services**

**Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre**
40 Masons Hill
Bromley
BR2 9JG
Tel: 020 8315 4741/49
Fax: 020 8466 8855

**Hawes Down Centre**
Hawes Lane
West Wickham
BR4 9AE
Tel: 020 8776 3160
Fax: 020 8777 1914

**Inclusion Support Services**

**Griffins**
Lovibonds Avenue
Orpington
Kent
BR6 8ER
Tel: 01689 889 851
Fax: 01689 889 865

**Special Educational Needs Services**
Bromley Civic Centre
Stockwell Close
Bromley
BR1 3UH
Tel: 020 8313 4488
Fax: 020 8313 4145

**Bromley Healthcare**

**The Phoenix Children’s Resource Centre**
40 Masons Hill
Bromley
BR2 9JG
Tel: 020 8466 9988
Fax: 020 8466 8855

**Community Provider Unit**
Children and Young People
Beckenham Beacon
379 Croydon Road
Beckenham Kent
BR3 3QL
Tel: 01689 866548
Fax: 020 8289 3242
Complaints, Comments, Compliments

How to complain

• Verbally to any employee of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Services
• In writing to the Complaints Officer c/o: CSC Complaints, Bromley Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley BR1 3UH
  Website: www.bromley.gov.uk
  By phone to the Complaints Officer: 020 8461 7644
  By email to the Complaints Officer: cypsocialcarecomplaints@bromley.gov.uk

You can also get help from

• Your nearest Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB):
  Beckenham & Penge 020 8778 0921
  Bromley 020 8315 1940
  Orpington 01689 874 185 or 01689 827 732
  Web: www.bromleycab.org.uk
• Local Government Ombudsman (Advice Team):
  Tel: 0300 061 0614
  Web: www.lgo.org.uk
• Your local councillor will also support you make a complaint.

Disclaimer

All information and contact details were updated at the time of print September 2013. Government legislation at that time was reflected, however, it should be recognised that this may change during the period covered by this booklet. Please note that any products or organisations included in this edition are not recommended or endorsed by Education and Care Services.

This guide is written for parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs and disabilities living in the London Borough of Bromley. Professionals working with children, young people and their families may also find it useful.

It is designed to enable individuals to find out what is available as a means of support and to access services available, both locally and nationally, more easily and directly. This is by no means a definitive guide to provision and services and we recommend you contact the service or organisation directly for further information.

It must be pointed out, however, that not all services are available or appropriate for every child, parent or carer. Some services are available only to children who have been assessed and referred by a professional.

This resource guide is not a substitute for contact between parents/carers and professionals, but should be viewed as a working tool to supplement them.

We hope you find the information useful and welcome any comments, feedback and ideas for future editions.

• Please contact:
  Ms Pelin Ahmet – Specialist Information Officer,
  Specialist Support & Disability Service
  Tel: 07850 923088
  Email: pelin.ahmet@bromley.gov.uk

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