

# SOCIAL CARE



**CROYDON'S LOCAL OFFER OF SERVICES FOR  
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 0-25 WITH SEND  
SUMMER 2015**

## SOCIAL CARE

### EARLY HELP PATHWAYS

Children, young people and their families must be offered help when needs and/or concerns are first identified. Early help is based on these principles:

- early identification and intervention
- effective integrated support for children with complex needs
- children, young people and their families are listened to
- agencies work together with shared responsibility
- safe-guarding and welfare of the child/young person is paramount.
- helping families to help themselves

These principles apply where Special Needs and Disabilities are identified. If housing, family or other domestic circumstance is thought to be contributing to educational need, agencies will work together to provide support.

For more information on Croydon's Early Help Pathways go to [www.practitionerspacecroydon.co.uk](http://www.practitionerspacecroydon.co.uk) where you will also find general information on social care for children and young people including the different types of assessment, and support for families.

### CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TEAM

The team provides a specialist service for children and young people with disabilities, aged 0-18, and their families who require support over and above what is available through universal and community services. They work closely with other services such as health, education and community organisations.

#### Eligibility

Children and young people aged 0-18 with a permanent

and substantial physical and/or learning disability. This includes profound multiple disabilities, disabilities associated with complex health problems, severe sensory impairments.

#### How to get an assessment

A referral for an assessment can be made by anyone, including a parent/carer, a GP, health visitor etc. For children and young people aged under 18 please contact:

 [MASH@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:MASH@croydon.gov.uk)

#### What happens at an assessment?

To understand how we may be able to help an assessment is undertaken to identify the needs of the family - this can take up to 45 working days. The assessment of your family and child's needs will be undertaken by a social worker from the children with disabilities service. This will give you and your child the opportunity to explore and explain the support you need. The assessment will take into account the views of the child and their parent; the development needs of the child; the capacity of the parent/carer to meet those needs; the impact of the home environment and support networks on the parent's ability to support their child.

Following the assessment a recommendation will be presented to the resource allocation panel which will use the assessment to make a decision on whether specialist services may be provided. You will be informed of the panel decision as soon as possible.

#### Services

These are a range of short breaks allocated after an assessment and a panel decision

One-to-one support - individual support is provided in the community or the family home to support the child/young person with their personal care, play, leisure

activities, independence skills etc. It helps a child to socialise or take part in a community activity such as swimming, sports and leisure activities and give the parent a break.

Direct payments – are cash payments made to an individual directly, giving a person the choice to buy and arrange their own social care services. The services that you buy are the ones that would otherwise be provided directly by Social Services. The levels of your direct payments will be reviewed regularly in line with your care needs and may be subject to change.

Calleydown short break unit – provides specialist overnight and day care for disabled children. For more details go to: [www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/families/cydisabilities/residential](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/families/cydisabilities/residential)

Saturday schemes, youth clubs, sports activities and Summer and half term schemes during school holidays – for more details go to the shortbreaks pages of our website where you will find lots of information on Croydon's short breaks and activities for children and young people.

[www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/families/cydisabilities/short-breaks](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/families/cydisabilities/short-breaks)

#### Equipment and Adaptations

Can be organised if a child has a substantial and permanent disability that requires aid equipment or adaptations to your home. You can contact the occupational therapist at 47 St James Road, Croydon, CR0 2UR

 **020 8274 6850**

See the "Equipment Toys and Adaptations" leaflet for more information.

## MOVING TO ADULT SERVICES

Transition workers in the Children with Disabilities team and the Joint Community Learning Disability team will manage the handover of information from children's to adult services. They also manage information on young people in care ensuring that transition plans are aligned to care plans, personal education plans etc. More information may be found on [www.croydon.gov.uk/sendoffer](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/sendoffer) in the **Preparing for Adulthood** section.

## ADULT SOCIAL CARE

The main way for people to make a referral to adult social care for -


- Information, advice or support for themselves
- Information, advice or support for someone else
- To make an allegation of abuse (safeguarding)
- To arrange the collection, repair or exchange of a piece of equipment complete our on line referral form

The online referral form found here:

<https://my.croydon.gov.uk/Services/AdultCareInitialReferral>

Online referrals will usually be processed within one working day, and no later than two working days. If you or the person needing the assessment does not have access to the internet you can –

- Use the public access computers in Access Croydon, Bernard Weatherill House
- Use a computer in a library
- Phone 0208 726 6500 (limited service available)

If you need to speak to someone in an emergency because you are worried about someone's safety contact  **0208 726 6500**

If someone contacts us on your behalf, we will make sure that you agree and that you wish to continue with the request for help.

## ADULT SOCIAL CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

There are services available specifically for adults with learning difficulties.

**Eligibility for services:** You can get a service if:

- you have a clear and permanent learning disability and need support to manage your life
- you have specialist health needs that your GP cannot help you with
- you live in Croydon or have always been supported by Croydon. (If another local authority already provides you with support, they may continue to do so.)
- you are over the age of 18
- you are the carer of a person with a learning disability who lives in Croydon.

### Which services are available?

- Support for independent living / Advocacy/Day services/Support for employment/Housing options and home care/Short breaks (Respite)/ Special psychiatric services/Support with transport/Direct payments.

### In an emergency

You can contact the joint community learning disability emergency response team Monday to Friday from 9am - 5pm in an emergency, or to find out about services.

 **020 8726 6500**

 [referral.team2@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:referral.team2@croydon.gov.uk)

**Contact:** Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon, CR0 1EA

Out of office hours please contact the emergency duty social worker at the contact details below. Ask to speak to a social worker or leave your name and phone number and a social worker will call you back.

### Emergency Duty Social Worker

 **020 8726 6500**