



CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY TEAM

Direct Payments for Disabled Children



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What are direct payments?

A direct payment is money we can give you to help you buy the care and support you need for your child.

The main advantage of direct payments is that they give you choice and control over your child's plan.

Once your child's needs have been assessed and they are confirmed as being eligible for additional support due to a complex or critical disability, the council will decide how much money you can receive.

What are direct payments used for?

Direct payments are for you to arrange and manage your child's care.

This could include:

- Employing a carer who does not live at the same address as you;
- Working with agencies that can provide different support such as developing social skills;
- Paying for activities that directly contribute to achieving the goals of the child;
- Paying for short breaks or respite care;

The package offered is to support and encourage identified improvements and to assist in the achievement of goals for your child.

Direct payments cannot be used to transfer money to your own personal account or for providing food and drink.

How do direct payments work?

The Direct Payment amount will be calculated annually as an equal weekly payment regardless of whether it is term time or school holidays.

The Direct Payment will be made every four weeks, 13 times each year. This enables young people and their families to have greater control over their budget and to either spend an equal amount each week or to save some of the budget from the regular payment, to spend on higher levels of support during holidays if they wish.

The recommendation of the level of the Direct Payment support will be determined following the assessment / review of the individual needs. In the first instance this will be agreed by the Team Manager up to 10 hours support per week, should higher levels or overnight support be required this will be overseen at the Resource Allocation Panel and the level of Direct Payment will be authorised.

A letter will be sent to the young person and their family confirming the start date and the amount of the Direct Payment available to meet their assessed needs.

It is recognised that a your children needs may also change at any point in time for a wide variety of reasons that may trigger an annual reassessment and result in an increase or decrease in the funding allocated.

Who can help me manage my payments?

In order to help you manage Direct Payments you can contact an organisation People Plus who provide a payroll support service. The contact details for these organisations can be found via back page.



Get in touch



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People Plus Payroll Services

ILS Division | Floor 3 | Blades Business Centre | John
Street | Sheffield | S2 4QX

 0330 123 2815

 ILSSolihull@peopleplus.co.uk

 peopleplus.co.uk

Direct Payments Information and Advice Service

Age UK Solihull | First Floor
The Core | Central Library
Homer Road
B91 3RG

 0121 709 7591

 directpayments@ageuksolihull.org.uk

