Short Breaks in Southwark Information session for families and staff May 2024

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What we'll cover

- What are short breaks?
- What we mean by universal, targeted and specialist short breaks and where you can find information about what's available?
- > New targeted short breaks services in Southwark
- Criteria for accessing a targeted short break
- How to use the booking platform (EEQU) to register for targeted short breaks
- > Feedback on experiences over Easter (to help us improve for summer)
- When an assessment with the All Age Disability Service may be required

What are short breaks?

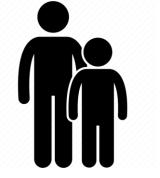
Short breaks are opportunities for disabled children and young people to do something fun and develop their skills and independence, whilst providing parents and carers with a valuable break from their caring role.

Short breaks can range from a few hours to overnight breaks and can take place inside the home or away from it.

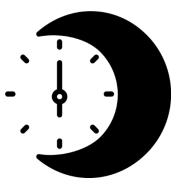
They can include things like:



Afterschool, weekend and holiday clubs



Support from a PA or support worker to access community activities



Overnight breaks

Universal, targeted and specialist short breaks **Specialist** Services for those with the most complex needs **Targeted services** Services for disabled children that meet certain criteria **Universal services** Services for all children in Southwark whether disabled or not

Universal services

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Universal services

Universal services are services for all children in Southwark, whether they have a disability or not. Examples of universal services include

- Stay & plays at children and family centres and family hubs
- Youth clubs
- After-school clubs
- Adventure playgrounds
- Free swim and gym sessions.

Information on universal services can be found on:

- Southwark's childcare webpage <u>www.southwark.gov.uk/childcare-and-parenting/childcare</u>
- Services for young people webpage <u>www.southwark.gov.uk/events-culture-and-heritage/services-for-young-people</u>
- One Hub' for young people <u>www.onehubsouthwark.co.uk</u>

Providers of universal services are expected to make reasonable adjustments so that children with additional needs can be included.

Targeted services

Targeted services

Targeted services provide activities for children and young people that have additional needs that may not be met within a universal setting.

Examples of targeted services include school holiday, weekend and after-school activities that have **higher staff ratios** and **additional resources** to support children with additional needs.

The social care division at Southwark Council funds some targeted short breaks services for children that meet the eligibility criteria. The general staff ratio is 1:3 or 1:4 but there are also some 1:1 placements for children that have more complex needs.

There are often other targeted activities available which are funded via other parts of the council or external agencies.

Targeted services are listed on Southwark's 'Local Offer' <u>www.localoffer.southwark.gov.uk</u>

Targeted Short Breaks

Funded via the social care division from 2024-2027

sport works	 Sport and physical activity clubs after-school, at weekends and during school holidays Ages 5-18 Activities include dodgeball, basketball, parachute games, football, fitness workouts and more Support is provided at a general staff ratio of 1 to 4
Endorphins	 School holiday play schemes and occasional Saturday sessions Ages 8-19 Activities include art, crafts, games, sensory activities, yoga and much more. Support is provided at a general staff ratio of 1 to 3 with a designated number of 1 to 1 placements available each day for children or young people that require a higher level of support.
Annu Whippersnapperson	 Varied programme of holiday and Saturday sessions for children and young people that require a higher level of support Ages 5-19 Support is provided at a ratio of 1 to 1 to meet the needs of children and young people with additional support requirements

Over the holidays there will also be a range of one-off workshops, trips and family events

Eligibility Criteria

To access these activities, children and young people must meet the targeted short breaks eligibility criteria i.e.:

General placement (staff ratio of 1:3 or 1:4)

- o **5-19**
- Southwark resident
- Has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- Unable to access universal services due to level of need and/or requires additional support

Enhanced placement (staff ratio of 1:1)

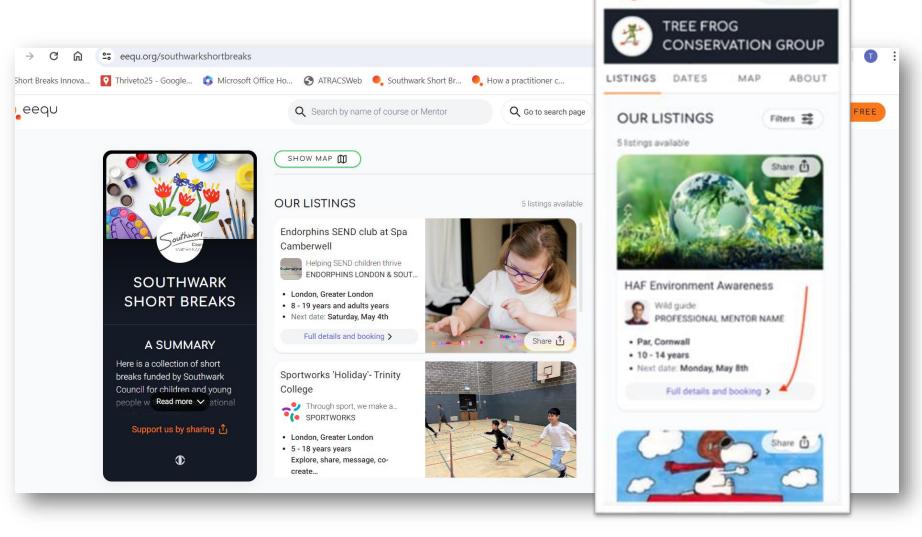
In addition to criteria above

- Attend a special school (in or out of borough) <u>and/ or</u> open to All Age Disability Service in Southwark
- Severe or complex learning disability, physical disability and/or health condition

Registering

- Registration is via a new online system call EEQU
- The aims of the system are to
 - Improve the booking experience for families
 - Improve equity and transparency
 - o Improve management of waiting lists
 - o Reduce administration
- For general targeted short breaks provision (support ratio of 1:3 or 1:4), families can register directly with the providers via the booking platform <u>www.eequ.org/southwarkshortbreaks</u>
- Families do not require an assessment with social care/ the All Age Disability Service to access the targeted short breaks offer.
- For enhanced placement (1:1 support) a dedicated link is shared by social workers and special schools.

How to use EEQU

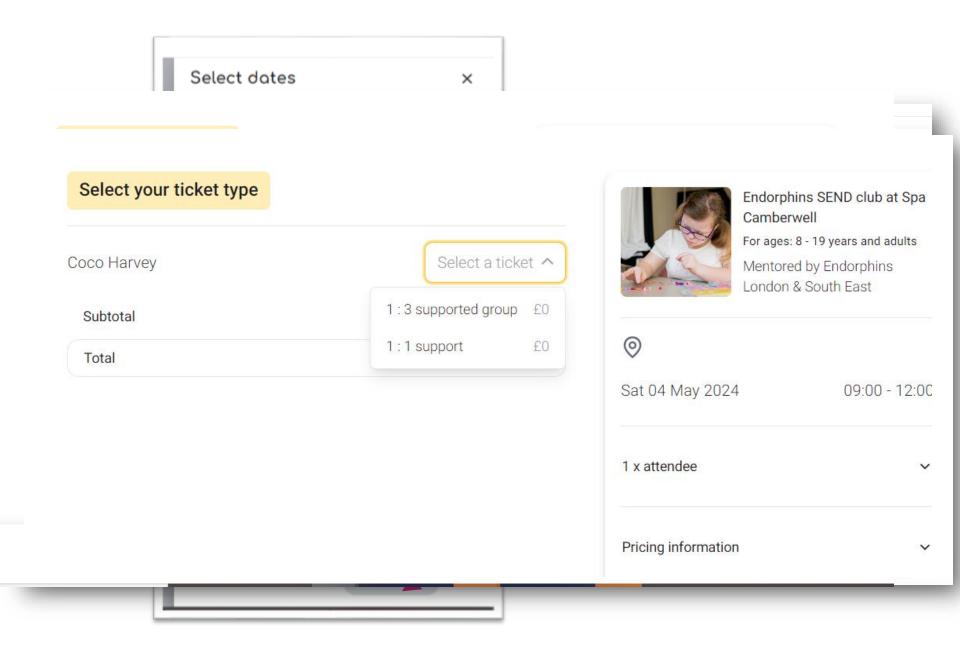


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Holidays

- Social care funded holiday provision is delivered during the longer holidays only i.e. Easter, Summer and a small amount at Christmas
- Due to anticipated demand, holiday provision is capped at a maximum of 10 days/ 2 weeks per child per year (subject to availability)
- Registration for holiday provision will open at least 4 weeks in advance of the holiday periods (longer at Summer if possible)
- Please note: At the moment regular afterschool and weekend clubs aren't capped but you may need to book on one term at a time

Specialist services

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Specialist services

These are services for disabled children with the most complex needs, that require support over and above what is available through targeted services.

Access to specialist services is via an assessment with the All Age Disability Service.

For under 18s: Referral is via Southwark's MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub). Telephone: 0207 525 1921; Email: MASH@southwark.gov.uk

For 18-25s: Referral is direct to the AAD duty team. Telephone: 0207 525 5372; Email: <u>AADDuty@southwark.gov.uk</u>

If eligible, a care plan will be agreed outlining what additional support will be made available to meet the family's needs.

Further information about the All Age Disability Team is available on the Local Offer website <u>https://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/care/</u>

Useful links

Useful links

Local Offer

The local offer will continue to be the first port of call for information about short breaks - including activities funded by other parts of the council and external sources.

The links to book on via EEQU will be included on the local offer, alongside additional provision that may be available (i.e. what's listed on EEQU isn't necessarily the full offer!)

www.localoffer.southwark.gov.uk

Southwark Short Breaks Landing Page

This link can be shared with eligible families to register: <u>www.eequ.org/southwarkshortbreaks</u>

Further information for practitioners

Short Help Article and Video – How a practitioner can help a parent/ carer to book a targeted short break

https://help.eequ.org/en/articles/8976743-how-a-practitioner-can-help-a-parent-to-book-asend-short-break

Feedback

Have your say

Please take a couple of minutes to provide feedback on today's information session and any recent experiences of booking or accessing short breaks

Scan this QR code or go to https://forms.office.com/e/WbE1Trr85V

Short Breaks Feedback Form

