

Aiming High for Disabled Children

Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) is the Government's transformation program for disabled children's services in England led jointly by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Department of Health.

The program focuses on developing short breaks, accessible childcare, transition support and parent forums. The Government is investing substantial new money to ensure disabled children and young people (including children with complex health needs and/or life threatening or limiting conditions and challenging behaviour) have a far better chance of fulfilling their potential. Up to now opportunities for disabled children have sometimes been insufficient to enable families with disabled children to enjoy aspects of life other families take for granted. Aiming High for Disabled Children promises action in three priority areas to improve outcomes:

- Access and empowerment
- Responsive services and timely support
- Improving quality and capacity

Additional resources have been earmarked for those services families have said are most important to help them live ordinary lives: short term breaks; access to child care; transition to adult services; access to equipment and wheelchairs; and a strengthening of the voice of families with disabled children.

Short Breaks.

Over the next few months Croydon will work to develop a strategy for the development of short break services for children with disabilities and their families.

The first task is complete a needs and gap analysis, which will give us the evidence to plan services for the future. All stakeholders including parents and young people will inform this.

If you are a user of services for disabled children or if you feel that you have some information from another perspective that will contribute to this analysis then please email jane.donson@croydon.gov.uk