



UNDERSTANDING YOUR ASSESSMENT FOR SHORT BREAKS



WHAT IS A SHORT BREAK?

A short break is a chance for you to have time away from your family having fun with friends. A short break could be...

- After school club
- Holiday play scheme
- Someone to take you out and about

WHY WOULD I WANT A SHORT BREAK?

- I want to go out with my friends
- There is an activity club I want to try
- I want a break from homework
- I would like someone to support me with my needs



THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The assessment starts when you tell someone you need help, or you want a short break. You can speak to...

- Parents
- Teaching assistant
- Social Worker
- Teacher
- Carer
- Other family member



An **ASSESSMENT** must be completed by a professional person. This is usually someone who works at your school. They will speak to you and your parents to find out lots of things about you. This is an assessment and it is important that have your say about what is written in the form.

Your **ASSESSMENT FORM** will be looked at by a group of people called a **PANEL**. The people on the panel include managers from Social Care, teachers and a nurse. They will read all about you and decide what type of help would be best for you. Sometimes the panel might need to ask your parents for more information to help them make a decision.



The panel's **DECISION** could be...

1. You can have some money so that you can go to a holiday play scheme, weekend or after school club OR Cheviots could pay the club for you.
2. You can have some money to do activities like swimming, horse-riding or football.
3. You can have some money to pay a carer to look after you at home or take you out.
4. You can't have any money but the panel will give you and your parents advice.
5. A Social Worker may need to visit you and your parents at home to do a Social Care Assessment. This will make sure the panel know enough about you to make the right decision.

The assessment process can take a little bit of time but don't worry people are doing their best to help you.



WHAT IS AN ASSESSMENT?

An assessment is a way to gather information about you and your family, to help professionals make a decision about what help you need. It is important that your thoughts, feelings and views are included in any assessment.

WHAT DOES A SOCIAL WORKER DO?

A Social Worker is there to help you and your family. If you explain to them what is going on for you they can give advice and come up with plans to make things better.

Who do I speak to if I'm not happy about my assessment?

- Parents
- Teacher
- Carer
- Social Worker
- Other family member

