

Name of service/organisation:

Direct Payments

Description:

Direct payments are made by the local council. They're for people who are assessed as needing help from social services, and allow them to arrange and pay for their own care and support services, aids and adaptations. This is instead of receiving services directly from the local council. Direct payments can be made to parents/carers with parental responsibility for a disabled child or to a young disabled person aged 16/17 if they have the capacity to manage the payments either alone or with assistance.

Direct payments can be used for a variety of services which offer your child stimulation, new experiences and independence. These include:

- short breaks
- nursery placement providing specialist support for your child
- assistance to attend an activity, for example a youth club
- personal care

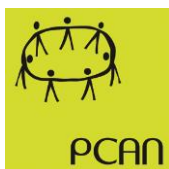
Where agreed following an assessment, you can use direct payments to employ a person to provide your child with support. (Local councils can provide guidance about safe practice in employing care-workers to work with your child. You can ask your council to help carry out a number of checks, including a police check to ensure the safety of your child. As the employer, the responsibility remains with you).

As a parent, or someone with parental responsibility, you should be supported to stay in work, or to return to work, if this is what you want to do. If you have been assessed as needing help from social services, direct payments may help you make sure you have the right type of after-school or holiday provision to meet the particular needs of your child.

Intended client group: People receiving social care services and parents and carers aged 16 and over. This includes people with parental responsibility for a disabled child.

Phone number: Contact your social worker or Gateway to Care on 01484 414933 for a referral

Website: For more information visit www.direct.gov.uk, enter Direct Payments in the search box and then follow the links



FINANCE AND LEGAL

PCAN Pages

Really useful information for parents of children with additional needs in Kirklees

Website www.pcankirklees.org Call 07754 102336 Email info@pcankirklees.org