



# Short Breaks

## About Short Breaks

Short breaks enable children and young people with disabilities to join in with safe and fun activities which can range from universal activities taking place in the community or at an attraction, or Short Break targeted activities that you can access with your Gateway Card+ . Whilst also giving parents or carers an opportunity to have a short break from caring.

## Who can get a Gateway Card or Gateway Card+?

Short Breaks Gateway Cards and Gateway Cards+ are for children and young people who:

- have a disability or additional needs
- require support to participate in leisure and recreation activities
- are aged between 0 and 17 years
- live in the Hampshire County Council area (excluding Portsmouth, Southampton)



## Activities – Targeted and Universal

Targeted Short Breaks are for children and young people who require support to attend a Hampshire County Council funded Short Break activity (specialist or mainstream) with their Gateway Card+. This break may be for a few hours up to a whole day and provide for you as a parent or carer an opportunity for respite which may include; leisure activities, day to day tasks or education/training.

Universal Short Breaks are for children and young people who require support to access activities in their community or when attending attractions. A Gateway Card will provide evidence to the chosen activity or attraction you are attending that your child or young person requires support to access. It should also mean that you will not have to carry confidential documents such as a DLA letter or proof of PIP.

## Gateway Card and Gateway Card+

The Gateway Card and Gateway Card+ lets community activities and activity providers know that your child has a disability and/or additional needs and may need extra support.

The Gateway Card can indicate to providers that you have already supplied evidence of eligibility to the Short Breaks Team which in turn means that you may not have to present sensitive documents when accessing an activity or attraction. It may also give you access to concessions, but this will be down to the individual provider.

The Gateway Card+ gives you access to targeted Short Break activities and the Buddy Scheme as well as indicating eligibility to universal providers.

## Cost of activity

You will still be required to pay the standard cost for your child to attend the activity. The Gateway Card+ will help activity providers apply for funding to cover any additional costs that are required for your child to participate fully.

## Apply for a Gateway Card or Gateway Card+

All applications must be submitted online as we are no longer able to accept paper based application forms. If you do not have access to a computer, tablet or mobile device, please visit your local library where you can access one free of charge.

[Apply for a Gateway Card or Gateway Card+ | hants.gov.uk](https://hants.gov.uk)



## How to find out more about activities

You can find out more about Short Break activities and how you can access them with your Gateway Card and Gateway Card+ by searching the Family Information Service Hub.

[Family Information and Services Hub | hants.gov.uk](https://hants.gov.uk)