

# Family Support Service

**The Family Support Service is part of a range of services for children and young people with additional needs and their families.**

**Integrated Children's Services** involves Devon County Council Children and Young People's Services and NHS Devon working together to provide support and services for children with additional needs and their families.

Integrated Children's Services includes:

- **Early Response Service** – which supports families when they are first referred to Integrated Children's Services and carries out initial assessments
- **Further Response Service** – which includes the work of professionals such as social workers and occupational therapists to provide long term support to families.

The **Family Support Service** works as part of the Integrated Children's Service to provide short break services and support for children with additional needs at home and in the community.

We work to promote and safeguard the welfare of families and children in the local community; our staff work with parents and carers to help them understand and meet the needs of their children in a safe, supported and caring environment.

Children and families are referred to the service by an Integrated Children's Service key worker.

## Family Support Services

### Eastern Activity Scheme

The Eastern Activity Scheme is a play scheme that runs from 10am-4pm every Saturday and five days a week in school holidays (except Bank Holidays), in three different locations. It gives children and young people aged between 4 and 18 with additional needs the chance to take part in activities, giving children and their parents or carers the chance to have a break. See FSS factsheet 2.

### Residential Short Breaks

For children and young people aged between 4 and 18 – services include:

- short breaks – day care and overnight stays
- assessment – short periods of stay to assess certain areas of care, for example; Epilepsy, behaviour, sleep patterns, diet, continence and medication
- treatment – working with other professionals to provide treatment plans
- support for families.

See FSS factsheet 3.

## **Family Integrated Support Service**

The Family Integrated Support Service (FISS) is a flexible, short term support service for families whose quality of life is affected by a child who has demanding behaviour. The support provided will help to give you the skills, knowledge and confidence to manage your child's behaviour. See FSS factsheet 4.

## **Children's Community Complex Healthcare Service**

The Children's Complex Community Healthcare Service (CCCH) provides a high standard of nursing care and support for children with complex medical needs who require additional support at home, at school and in the community. See FSS factsheet 5.

## **Enabling Service for children with additional needs**

The Enabling Service works on a one-to-one basis in the community or home, supporting young people with special and complex needs. Our work varies depending on the needs of young person and their parents or carers. We provide short and long term support as well as emergency work. See FSS factsheet 6.

## **Multi-Sensory Impairment (MSI) Service**

We work with children and young people who have deaf-blind needs in the home, school and community. Our work covers three main areas:

- orientation and mobility
- total communication
- learning and development.

We can provide support in all settings including your child's home, education setting, health setting and at their social activities. See FSS factsheet 7.