

Money, money, money

www.devon.gov.uk/cwan

January 2012

Information about savings and financial support available to families of children and young people with disabilities.

Quids for Special Kids

Free advice to make sure families are getting all the benefits and tax credits they are entitled to. The advisers will visit you at home and can help fill in Disability Living Allowance (DLA) forms. Call **0300 5000 404** Monday–Friday 10am–1pm Devon Welfare Rights Unit is part of Citizen's Advice **www.dwru.org**

FunderFinder

Your local information co-ordinator has the Funderfinder computer programme which can list charities and trusts which match your circumstances and what you are looking for. The co-ordinator will need to know what the money is for and brief details about your child's disability, but not any financial information. Contact details for local information co-ordinators are over the page.

Family Information Directory

The Family Information Directory has details of local and national groups which may be able to help with funding and financial support. Go to **www.devon.gov.uk/disc** and click on 'Family Service Directory'.

Contact-a-Family

0808 808 3555 www.cafamily.org.uk

Produce some good information including:

- a guide to claiming Disability Living Allowance for children
- a tax credit guide for self-employed parents

- benefits, tax credits and other financial assistance
- Child Tax Credit and information for families on Income Support
- dealing with debt
- DLA for children with learning disabilities
- Direct Payments for your child
- help from the social fund
- help with Council Tax bills
- help with fuel bills and keeping warm
- money when your child reaches 16 years
- Carer's Allowance - audio version
- Income Support and Jobseeker's Allowance - audio version.

The Family Fund

0845 130 4542

www.familyfund.org.uk

Provides grants to families with children and young people aged 17 and under who have a severe disability or serious illness.

Vehicle Excise Duty

www.direct.gov.uk

Otherwise known as car tax. If you are receiving the Higher Rate Mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance you can apply for an exemption certificate.

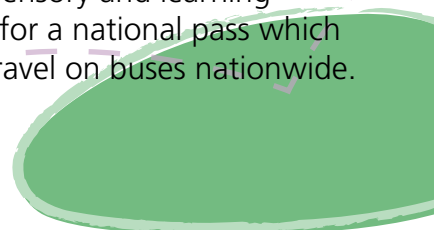
National Bus Pass

Exeter **01392 383688**

Barnstaple **01271 383688**

www.devon.gov.uk/bus_passes

People with physical, sensory and learning disabilities are eligible for a national pass which entitles them to free travel on buses nationwide.



Factsheet 11

Disabled Persons Railcard

0845 605 0525

www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk

Children aged between 5 and 16 may be eligible for a Disabled Persons Railcard. They pay the normal child's fare and an adult can travel with them at the discounted rate. For young people over 16 The Disabled Persons Railcard allows them to buy discounted rail tickets.

Fuel and water

All fuel suppliers offer special tariffs for vulnerable customers and some offer hardship funds. Contact your local fuel supplier or the Energy Saving Trust Advice Centre on **0800 512 012**

A **Warm Front grant** can provide money towards insulation and heating. To qualify for a Warm Front grant you must own your home or rent from a private landlord, have a child under 16 and be receiving certain benefits. Phone **0800 316 6011** or visit **www.warmfront.co.uk**

If you have a water meter, are on certain benefits and have three children under 19 in full time education, or if you use more water than average because of medical reasons, you may be able to apply to have your water bill capped phone **0800 169 1133** or visit **www.southwestwater.co.uk**.

VAT

Many items have VAT added to the price. However goods which are designed specifically for use by disabled people can have no VAT. Some building work and adaptations can also be exempt. Call **0845 302 0203** or visit **www.hmce.gov.uk**

Council Tax

You may get a reduction in your Council Tax banding if a disabled person lives in the property and a room (other than a bathroom, kitchen, or toilet) is used mainly by that person. For example an extension used for storing specialist equipment or extra space inside to allow for a wheelchair. Each district council has a slightly different definition so contact your local council for more details.

Benefits

For information about benefits for children with additional needs and their families, such as Disability Living Allowance or Carer's Allowance, and for information on pensions for carers visit **www.direct.gov.uk** and go to the sections on 'Money, tax and benefits' and 'Caring for someone'.

The Cinema Exhibitors Association Card

A national card scheme which entitles the holder to one free ticket for a person accompanying them to the cinema. The card holder must be receiving Disability Living Allowance or registered blind or hold a Disabled Person's Railcard. Find a list of cinemas in the scheme and more information at **www.ceacard.co.uk** or call **0845 123 1292**

DISCplus local information co-ordinators

The co-ordinators are there to help you get information on services and support available in your area.

Phone the main office on **0845 155 1013** and ask to speak to your local co-ordinator or email **discplus@devon.gov.uk**

