

# Waltham Forest Education, Health and Care Pathway

## A personalised pathway

Personal Budgets for Special Educational  
Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 0–25

5



Waltham Forest

**This leaflet describes step 5 of the Assessment and Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan Pathway. It relates to personal budgets for children and young people with special educational needs who have an EHC Plan. Parents or the young person (if over the age of 16) must always be involved in planning a personal budget.**

There are already existing arrangements for families with children or young people who have a disability. You can ask for support through social care to consider providing short breaks or a personal budget if your child has been assessed as needing services even if you haven't got an EHC Plan.

## What is a Personal Budget?

A personal budget is an amount of funding to deliver a service to meet the additional and individual support needs of a child or young person. The Personal Budget can come in the form of services that are allocated by the Local Authority or a Direct Payment to allow the parent to buy the service themselves. Personal budgets may be provided from education, health and social care.

## Who can ask for a Personal Budget?

- Parents/Carers of a child with an EHC Plan
- Or a young person; if over the age of 16, who has an EHC Plan

## What is a personal budget used for?

A personal budget can be used only on the support set out in an EHC Plan. This can include funding for the special educational needs, health and social care support that will help achieve the outcomes set out in the plan.

## What a personal budget is not used for?

A personal budget does not cover payment for a place at a school or college. It also does not cover the general provision for children and young people in schools, including those who need SEN support.



## What are the different financial arrangements of a personal budget?

**An organised arrangement** is where the Local Authority will look after the personal budget for the child or young person. This is also known as a notional budget.

**A third party arrangement** is where the parents or young person may ask for an organisation to manage the personal budget on their behalf. This is also known as a fund holder. The organisation will hold the money and help parents or young people decide the best way to spend the funding; they will buy the families chosen services.

**A Direct Payment** is where the parents or young person will manage all of the personal budget themselves, the funding will come direct to the family who will use it to deliver support as set out in the EHC plan. This is also known as a self-managed budget.

Parents and young people can have a mixture of these arrangements.

## How can a direct payment be provided?

A direct payment is given to the parent or young person for some services through a pre-paid card system which allows the family or young person to have choice and control on using the funding to purchase support to meet the outcomes in the EHC Plan.

## Examples of how families have used personal budgets

There are case studies of how families have used personal budgets available to read on the KIDs website under the following link:

[www.kids.org.uk/mip2](http://www.kids.org.uk/mip2)



## Local Authority Support

For children and young people aged between **0–13 years** contact:

### SEN Team

Wood Street Health Centre  
6 Linford Road, Walthamstow, E17 3LA  
Tel: 0208 496 6501/6500/6504

For young people aged between **14–25 years** contact:

### Transition Team

30 Coleridge Road, Walthamstow, E17 6QU  
Tel: 0208 430 8473

For families requesting short-breaks for children and young people with disabilities:

### Short Breaks

Juniper House, 221 Hoe Street,  
Walthamstow, E17 9PH  
Tel: 0208 496 3515

For any queries about the pre-paid card system:

### Finance

Waltham Forest Town Hall, Forest Road,  
Walthamstow, E17 6HE  
Tel: 0208 496 4000

## Independent SEN Information and advice services for Parents

### Waltham Forest SEND Information and Advice Service

Website: [www.walthamforest.gov.uk](http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk)  
Address: Parkside Children's Centre  
82 Peel Close, Chingford, London E4 6XQ

Email: [Wf.sendiass@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:Wf.sendiass@walthamforest.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 020 8496 5230  
Free phone: 0800 587 2521



**Waltham Forest  
SENDIASS**  
Special Educational Needs Disability  
Information Advice and Support Service

## Independent Parental Support

This support is for parents/carers of  
children aged: 0–25

### Barnardo's

Suite One, 49–51 The Broadway, E15 4BQ  
Tel: 0208 555 1880  
Email: [ISWalthamforest@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:ISWalthamforest@barnardos.org.uk)

**Believe in  
children**



**Barnardo's**

For support with Direct Payments services for  
adults and for children's respite packages in  
Waltham Forest please contact:

### Reaching Out East

The North Hub, 58 Hall Lane, Chingford Mount,  
London, E4 8EU  
Tel: 020 8519 6369  
Email: [info@reachingouteast.org.uk](mailto:info@reachingouteast.org.uk)  
Direct Payments Team  
Email: [directpayments@reachingouteast.org.uk](mailto:directpayments@reachingouteast.org.uk)

