Greenwich Short Breaks

2023-2027

Summer 2026 Edition



A Guide for Families and Professionals

South East London Integrated Care System

ACE Action | Change | Equality
Young people with disabilities in Royal Greenwich

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

Contents

Short Breaks in Greenwich – an overview Page 3

Targeted and Specialist support explained Page 5

Greenwich Short Breaks Provision*:

Targeted Services

Ages 5 - 7

- *The Javan Coker Foundation* Page 6

Ages 8 - 10

- *Simply SEND* Page 7

Ages 11-17

- *Community Adventures* Page 8

Specialist Services

Ages 5-10

- *On The Go* Page 9
- *All Kids Can* Page 10

Ages 11-17

- *On The Go (Complex Programme)* Page 11
- *All Kids Can* Page 12

18+ Services

Targeted & Specialist Services Ages 18-25

- *Community Adventures 18+* Page 13

***Please note that the information in this guide is often updated and subject to change. If any details for the providers are incorrect, we will endeavour to bring them up to date as soon as possible.**

Short Breaks in Greenwich – an overview

What are Short Breaks?

Short Breaks are designed to help families to care for their disabled children by providing them with regular breaks. This is so that they can meet the needs of other children in the family; study or take part in leisure activities themselves; or carry out day-to-day household tasks. Greenwich also want short breaks to enable children and young people to access positive, meaningful activities in the local community.

Who can access?

Anyone aged 5-17 who lives in Greenwich and has an Education, Health, and Care (EHC) plan, or aged 18+ who has been assessed as eligible for support under the Care Act 2014 can access Short Breaks. To register, contact the Short Breaks team, or download the registration forms on the Local Offer website.

How much does it cost?

The commissioned short breaks are heavily subsidised by Greenwich. The only cost to families is the access fees which are set by the providers. This currently ranges from £2.50 to £5 per hour.

To ensure that you and your child are accessing the benefits you are entitled to, you can contact the Welfare Rights service on 020 8921 6375.

What activities are on offer?

There are several organisations across Greenwich which provide Short Breaks for disabled children and young people. Information can be found about each of them in this guide. Each provision offers a wide range of activities, trips, and community-based opportunities with a focus on having fun and developing independence.

The 2023-2027 Short Breaks offer has been co-produced with children, young people, and the Greenwich Parent Carer Participation Forum to ensure that it meets the needs of local families.

How much can a child or young person access each year?

From 1st April to 31st March each year, a child or young person aged 5-17 can access up to 100 hours of commissioned activities. This works out to be up to 20 - 25 sessions per year, depending on which provision(s) you access. These can be used flexibly when families feel that they are most needed.

For those aged 18+, a young person can access up to 8 sessions per year alongside their regular support package.

It is important to note that there are times throughout the year when service demand is high, and therefore provision cannot be guaranteed. However, providers

will work with you to ensure that you get access to the support when needed as often as possible.

What is available for children with SEND aged 0-4?
In Greenwich there is a variety of support available for children and their families from local Children's Centres. These have a range of activities and services that are available to children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

These inclusive sessions provide additional staff who are qualified and experienced in working with SEND. The sessions also offer a space for parents and carers to come together, discuss their experiences and get support and advice. For more information, check the Short Breaks page on the Local Offer, or contact the Families Information Service (FIS) by emailing fis@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or calling 020 8921 6921.

Is there a website?
The Greenwich Local Offer has all the information you need on the Short Breaks services: www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/send. You can also search "Greenwich Short Breaks".

Who can we contact?

For any queries or to register for the service, contact the Short Breaks team by emailing Short-Breaks-Referrals@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or call 0208 921 3002.






Targeted and Specialist support explained

Targeted Services

These services are for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) who need extra help to take part in activities. This includes children with moderate needs, such as autism, moderate learning difficulties, or communication needs.

Many of these children will attend mainstream schools, where they may receive one-to-one support or learn in small groups during the day. It is expected that they will be able to build friendships and feel included by taking part in these targeted activities.

The activities have more staff available than regular activities, and staff have additional training to support children with SEND.

Any child or young person with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan who lives in Greenwich can use these targeted short break services. They can also start using these services once an EHC needs assessment has been agreed. If the assessment shows that the child does not need an EHC plan, they can still take part in universal youth services instead.

Specialist Services

This support is for children and young people who have more complex needs. This might include severe autism, significant learning difficulties, or serious medical or health conditions.

These programmes have a higher number of staff to support children, often with one-to-one support (1:1). Staff are specially trained and have the skills needed to support children with these complex needs. The level of care required is usually more specialised than what is offered in targeted programmes. Each child will likely also have an individual support package from the Local Authority, based on a social care assessment of their needs.

For children with higher levels of need, short break activities may form part of a wider care package. In some cases, a child can begin accessing specialist short break services while their social work assessment is still in progress.

If, after the assessment, it is decided that the child does not need specialist short breaks under the law (such as the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 or the Care Act 2014), they can continue to access targeted short break services instead.

Targeted Services
Age 5 - 7 years

The Javan Coker Foundation
Abbey Wood

Summer

Information to be updated.

Contact Details:
Email: thejavancokerfoundation@gmail.com
Tel: 020 3062 6001
Website: https://www.thejavancokerfoundation.org/

Targeted Services
Age 8 – 10 years

SimplySEND Short Breaks

Summer

SimplySEND
Heronsgate Primary School (Arsenal Campus)

What do they offer? SimplySEND provides inclusive short breaks for children and young people with disabilities and additional needs. Sessions are fun, accessible, and tailored to different ages and abilities, offering activities such as arts and crafts, sensory play, games, sports, social activities, and life skills. The programme aims to support participation, build confidence, encourage independence, and promote friendships in a safe, supportive environment.

How can they help my child? SimplySEND recognises each child is unique. Our trained staff provide personalised support so participants can access and enjoy activities. Children and young people can develop social skills, communication, confidence, independence, emotional wellbeing, and positive relationships. The team works with families to understand needs and put appropriate support in place to help each child achieve their outcomes.



Session Length: 4 hours

Cost: £10 per session

The ideal short break for: Children and young people with SEND who benefit from a safe, inclusive environment. The programme supports a wide range of needs, helping participants develop skills, build confidence, and make friends.

SimplySEND works closely with families to ensure each child receives the support they need and families benefit from valuable respite, knowing their child is supported and engaged.

Contact Details:
Email: hello@simplysend.co.uk
Tel: 0203 375 9045
Website: simplysend.co.uk

Targeted Services
Age 11 – 17 years

Community Adventures

Charlton Athletic Community Trust
Avery Hill Youth Club, Eltham

School Holidays
Weekends
Summer

What do they offer? Fun, positive experiences and activities throughout the year. Sessions take place during school holidays and on Saturdays. Activities on offer include bowling, TOCA social interactive football, trampolining, pottery and trips to parks, forests, and farms. CACT also have access to Avery Hill Youth Club for hub-based sessions such as sports, arts and crafts, games and music therapy as well as offering access to the pool table and indoor sports hall.

How can they help my child? CACT offer a safe space for young people to engage with their peers and grow independence whilst making new friendships and taking part in a variety of community activities.



Session Length: 4 hours

Cost: £10 per session.

The ideal short break for: Young people looking to engage in activities in the community with their peers who may need additional adult support from qualified, experienced staff members.

Contact Details:
Email: billy.holdsworth@cact.org.uk
Tel: 020 8850 2866
Website: https://cact.org.uk

Specialist Services
Age 5 – 10 years

On The Go Saturdays & Summer

Weekends

Summer

Willow Dene School
Swingate Lane, Plumstead

What do they offer? At On The Go, we want children to come and play with different children and adults in a safe environment and have lots of fun. We want friendships to be made with peers and adults alike. We want to provide you with lots of different enjoyable experiences and opportunities such as outings into the local community, swimming, Forest School, cooking, arts and crafts, soft play, and ball pool. Our staff will support you to practise and learn new skills in a fun way. We have different equipment and resources that make sure everyone can access everything on offer.



How can they help my child? Staff from Willow Dene school will help you access all the different activities and support you in developing your independence, social skills and making progress towards your outcomes. If you can't voice what your likes/dislikes are, don't worry, the staff will be playing alongside you and observing what you are enjoying and engaging in most. They will know if an activity makes you anxious or stressed and will support you through the experience. Staff are kind and caring and dedicated to you getting the most you can from the activities on offer.

Session Length: Saturday sessions – 4 hours**;** Summer sessions – 6 hours

Cost: £20 per session

The ideal short break for: Children who like lots of physical and creative activities and need a safe place to do this. We have different outdoor equipment that you can use such as trampolines, swings, climbing frames and a slide. We will always provide opportunities for this come rain or shine.

Contact Details:
Email: wdsbsc@willowdene.compassps.uk
Tel: 020 8854 9841
Website: https://www.willowdene.greenwich.sch.uk/

WILLOW DENE
SCHOOL

Specialist Services
Age 5 – 10 years

All Kids Can
Shooters Hill College

School Holidays

Summer

What do they offer?

Holiday Club - Our holiday clubs take place during school holidays throughout the year including Easter and February, May, and October half terms. They consist of various types of on-site and off-site activities such as cooking, arts and crafts, sensory activities, multisport sessions, music and performing arts as well as trips out to places such as zoo/farm trips, bowling, trampoline parks, museums, parks and seaside trips (weather permitting!).

Summer Clubs - Our Summer holiday club runs for one week in the summer, with similar activities to our holiday clubs.

How can they help your child? AKC is a trusted, specialist provider of Shorts Breaks with over ten years of working with disabled children and adults. They have a vast range of skilled consistent staff to support a range of SEN children with a wide variation of needs and disabilities. Whatever the needs of your child, AKC will endeavour to provide the opportunity to experience an array of activities in a safe environment. All courses are designed specifically for the needs of the group at the time so all can be included.

Session Length: 5 hours

Cost: £20 per session. Transport to and from home can be purchased for an additional £30 per session.

The ideal short break for: Children aged 5-10 years old with all types of needs and disabilities who require higher levels of support and that are looking at accessing a range of on-site and off-site activities and trips. Specific needs of the children typically include ASD, learning difficulties and/or complex medical/health needs.

Contact Details:
Email: shortbreaks@allkidscan.co.uk
Tel: 0208 836 8906
Website: www.allkidscan.co.uk

Specialist Services
Age 11 – 17 years

On The Go (Complex Programme)

Summer

Willow Dene School
Swingate Lane, Plumstead

What do they offer? At On The Go, we want young people to come and play with their peers in a safe environment and have lots of fun. We want friendships to be made with peers and adults alike. We want to provide you with lots of different enjoyable experiences and opportunities such as outings into the local community, swimming, Forest School, cooking, arts and crafts, soft play, and ball pool. Our staff will support you to practise and learn new skills in a fun way. We have different equipment and resources that make sure everyone can access everything on offer.



How can they help my child? Staff from Willow Dene school will help you access all the different activities and support you in developing your independence, social skills and making progress towards your outcomes. If you can't voice what your likes/dislikes are, don't worry, the staff will be playing alongside you and observing what you are enjoying and engaging in most. They will know if an activity makes you anxious or stressed and will support you through the experience. Staff are kind and caring and dedicated to you getting the most you can from the activities on offer.

Session Length: 6 hours

Cost: £20 per session

The ideal short break for: Children with complex health and medical needs who like lots of physical and creative activities and need a safe place to do this. We will always provide opportunities for this come rain or shine. This provision is aimed at those in receipt of continuing care support and/or whose needs are such that they cannot attend alternative programmes.

Contact Details:
Email: wdsbsc@willowdene.compassps.uk
Tel: 020 8854 9841
Website: https://www.willowdene.greenwich.sch.uk/

WILLOW DENE
SCHOOL

Specialist Services
Age 11 – 17 years

All Kids Can
Shooters Hill College

Weekends
School Holidays
Summer

What do they offer?

Saturday Clubs - Our Saturday clubs run during term time between school holidays. The sessions consist of various types of on-site and off-site activities such as cooking, arts and crafts, sensory activities, multisport sessions, music and performing arts as well as trips out to places such as zoo/farm trips, bowling, trampoline parks, museums, parks and seaside trips (weather permitting!).

Holiday Club - Our holiday clubs take place during school holidays throughout the year including February, Easter (2 weeks), May and October half terms. Activities are similar to the Saturday clubs with guaranteeing two trips off site per week (minimum).

Summer Clubs - Our Summer holiday clubs typically run throughout the month of August in the school/college summer holidays for 4 weeks back-to-back. Activities include those similar to the holiday clubs above as well as trips to different seasides every week!

How can they help your child? AKC is a trusted, specialist provider of Shorts Breaks with over 10 years of working with disabled children and adults. They have a vast range of skilled consistent staff to support a range of SEN children with a wide variation of needs and disabilities. Whatever the needs of your child, AKC will endeavour to provide the opportunity to experience an array of activities in a safe environment. All courses are designed specifically for the needs of the group at the time so all can be included.

Session Length: 5 hours

Cost: £20 per session. Transport to and from home can be purchased for an additional £30 per session.

The ideal short break for: Young people aged 11-17 years old with all types of needs and disabilities who require higher levels of support and that are looking at accessing a range of on-site and off-site activities and trips. Specific needs of our students typically include ASD, learning difficulties and/or complex medical/health needs.

Contact Details:
Email: shortbreaks@allkidscan.co.uk
Tel: 0208 836 8906
Website: www.allkidscan.co.uk

Targeted & Specialist Services
18+ (up to 25 with an EHCP and Care Act eligibility)

Community Adventures 18+

Charlton Athletic Community Trust
Avery Hill Youth Club, Eltham

School Holidays
Weekends
Summer

What do they offer? Fun, positive experiences and activities throughout the year. Sessions take place during school holidays and on Saturdays. Activities on offer include bowling, trampolining, pottery, TOCA social interactive football and trips to parks, forests, and farms. CACT also have access to Avery Hill Youth Club for hub-based sessions such as sports, arts and crafts, games and music therapy as well as offering access to the pool table and indoor sports hall.

How can they help my child? CACT offer a safe space for young people to engage with their peers and grow independence whilst making new friendships and taking part in a variety of community activities.



Session Length: 4 hours.

Cost: £10-£20 per session.

The ideal short break for: Young people looking to engage in activities in the community with their peers who may need additional adult support from qualified, experienced staff members.

Contact Details:
Email: billy.holdsworth@cact.org.uk
Tel: 020 8850 2866
Website: https://cact.org.uk