



Teaching and Learning: Birth to Three Portage Service

Who are we?

The Birth to Three Portage service is a county wide home visiting educational service for Pre-School children aged 0-3. To access the service children should have a significant delay in two or more areas of their development.

We are a team of highly skilled Portage trained Child Development Advisers with qualifications in Early Years and Special Educational Needs.

* The Service is registered with the National Portage Association (NPA).

What we do?

We visit children in their home, helping them to learn new skills through play.

Our 1 hour visits are fortnightly or monthly dependent on need. In that time we will:

- work together with the family to carry out a baseline assessment;
- set individual targets to support the child's development and review on a regular basis;
- offer advice and guidance about Stay & Play groups and pre-school settings;
- provide information for multidisciplinary assessments etc;
- suggest possible local and national support groups;
- provide opportunities for parents/carers to meet;
- work closely with all professionals involved with the child;

We also:

- support the child's transition into pre-school, observing and sharing targets with staff;
- offer Stay & Play/Parent Support groups, Baby Massage, Baby Signing;
- provide opportunities for families to come together e.g. picnics, Christmas parties, trips to the farm;
- for children with very complex needs act as the co-ordinator (sometimes referred to as the Lead Professional) in Early Support meetings:

<http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/earllysupport>

Who can refer to our Service?

We can accept referrals directly from parents/carers or with parental permission, referrals can be made by other IDS teams, GPs, Paediatricians, Health Visitors, Speech & Language Therapy, Physiotherapists etc.

How to refer to the Integrated Disability Service

All referrals to IDS teams are made on the same system, ensuring that everyone from IDS working with your child will be aware of who else is currently working with them and what the background has been.

1. Call either of the IDS offices. For Saltisford ring 01926 413737, for Lancaster House ring 02476 368800 and follow the prompts to make a referral. You will be asked some straightforward questions concerning the referral and the details will be entered onto the referral system and passed to the relevant specialist team. Please be aware that if you are not the parent or carer of the child / young person you will be asked to confirm that you have gained their consent for the referral.
2. Write to either IDS office at the following addresses:

IDS	IDS
Building 1	Lancaster House
Saltisford Office Park	Exhall Grange Campus
Warwick	Ash Green
CV34 4UL	Coventry
	CV7 9HP