

## Share the Care

Share the Care is a council run scheme for disabled children and young people. The scheme has a number of short breaks carers who are approved to care for disabled children and young people in their homes. Short breaks can provide the minimum of one weekend a month initially and then build up to more regular visits if this is required and carer(s) have availability to provide an increased package of short breaks. We are currently in need of more carers to provide short breaks, ideally with the child or young person staying in the carer's home for that period.

**At the moment we are particularly in need of carers who can look after children who are on the autistic spectrum**

**Share the Care** allows its carers to forge long term relationships with not only the child but his or her family and it suits people who can offer short breaks and who feel positive about children and young people whose disabilities can range from learning difficulties and autism to physical impairments.



Evidence shows that disabled children and young people enjoy experiences away from their primary carers, as it contributes to their personal and social development and reduces social isolation. Evidence also shows that parents and families benefit from this as it gives them necessary and valuable breaks from caring responsibilities.



Some **Share the Care** short break carers are linked with one child, others provide short breaks to more than one child. In most cases, where space provides, it is preferable if the child or young person stays overnight in the carer's home, but if accommodation is not suitable to meet their needs there is still a necessity for day care, for those with more complex needs.

If you think you might be interested in becoming a **Share the Care** short break carer then please contact me, Tony Bray, on **01454 866423** for a general chat and/or to receive an Information Booklet.

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[www.southglos.gov.uk/sharethecare](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/sharethecare)