

Carmarthen Breakthro' Caerfyrddin Station Road, Nantgaredig, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, Wales, SA32 7LQ Registered Charity no. 518918

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

January 2025

Carmarthen Breakthro' (Breakthro') is a registered charity (Reg. No. 518918), that provides Saturday Clubs, holiday play schemes and weekend breaks for children with severe learning disabilities. This provides respite for the parents and siblings of these children.

The charity is governed by its executive committee, which meets monthly to discuss and prioritize any issues raised in the day to day running of Breakthro'. The registered responsible individual is Emyr Beynon, who is also the designated person in charge.

Breakthro' provides such care for children between the ages of 4 and 19 years and aims to care for approximately 10 children at any session. Carmarthen Breakthro is registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to provide care for a maximum of 10 children under the age of 12 years, during any one session. The children are referred to Breakthro' by the Children's Disabilities team at Carmarthen County Council, as they will assess if your child is being in particular need of our services.

The children's Disabilities team are based at: Ground Floor, St Anne's Building, St David's Park, Jobswell Road, Carmarthen. SA31 3HB. Telephone number 01267 246400 or contact Emyr Beynon (Coordinator) at Breakthro' directly on 07772078634 if you require any further information.

This respite care is reserved for children with severe learning difficulties and it is not the policy of Breakthro' to provide care for children who do not have such difficulties, as this would necessarily lessen the quality and effect of the care that is provided.

The children are normally cared for on a one-to-one basis where required, and sometimes on a two-to-one basis. All staff receive a high standard of on-going training including child safeguarding, manual handling, first aid and food hygiene. The majority of our staff hold a relevant childcare qualification, with all staff having an extensive experience of working within the special education needs sector.

Communication takes place in the medium of Welsh and English and also provision is made for communication through sign language and other formats, where appropriate. All efforts would be made to accommodate children speaking any other language should the occasion arise.

Our aim is to give the children fun, enjoyment and well-supervised leisure activities, whilst in our care, as well as interaction with other children and volunteers. As well as indoor activities, a large enclosed outside play area is available where gardening and other activities take place. Regular trips take place throughout the children's time with us in our specially adapted vehicle.

The usually daily routine is as follows -

09:30am – arrival

10:30am – snack

12:30pm – lunch

03:30pm - home time

Planned activities as well as free play activities are planned and delivered throughout the day. Children are required to bring a packed lunch, however, snacks such as toast and fruit are provided at no additional cost and drinking water is readily available throughout the day. Children also enjoy caring for our two pet goldfish, which also provide sensory stimulation to some individuals.

We aim to provide each child a minimum of:

- a) 1 Saturday Club per month
- b) 1 day per week Playscheme during school holidays, excluding Christmas.
- c) 1 weekend away each year (subject to funding)
- d) 1 family trip outing each year (subject to funding)

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Saturday Clubs and Play schemes are currently £15 per session that start at 09:30am and finish at 3:30pm. There are four different groups catering for children with a variety of difficulties. If you are a single parent working at least 16 hours per week or one of a couple who both work at least 16 hours per week, with children living with you, you may be able to claim back your eligible childcare costs through the working tax credit? For more information visit your local Job Centre or Benefits Agency or log on to the HM Revenue website. Contact Number 0345 300 3900

All staff and volunteers who are in contact with the children receive sufficient training to enable them to carry out their duties to the required standard. All staff and volunteers also carry an up to date enhanced DBS.

During 2019 and 2020 we have made a number of improvements to the service we provide, including updating our sensory and soft play areas, purchasing a new accessible minibus and

installing a range of accessible play equipment in our large outdoor area. This ensures we cater and offer a range of activities for each individual that attends Breakthro.

It is the policy of Breakthro' to keep parents updated on all the latest news and events that will impact on their children's use of the services and this is normally undertaken by child's contact book, the website (www.carmarthen-breakthro.co.uk) or other more direct contact. Breakthro also has an active presence on a number of social media platforms, allowing us to engage with our wider community.

Parents are encouraged to keep close links with Breakthro' through the use of contact books and regular conversations via the coordinator.

Events and details of outings may change from month to month and are set out in correspondence to parents, parents are also free to contact Breakthro' at any time to ask questions or request information.

The Statement of Purpose will be reviewed and updated annually, or before, if any changes are made to the service.

Policies are available on request.

- In a case of an emergency, the Emergency Evacuation and Fire Policy will be enforced and parents contacted immediately.
- If any parents are unhappy with the service, they can submit a formal complaint, following our Complaints policy.

The service terms and conditions can be found in the Parent/service contract.