

What do Torbay parents/carers think about Portage?

“Overall view of Portage has been that it is fantastic.”

“Portage have provided us with the most valuable guidance and techniques, from support and guidance throughout the EHCP process, to communication strategies, and different ways to deal with challenging behaviour, plus more.”

“The service from Portage has been invaluable.”

“Portage have helped by keeping on top of other services, ensuring that responses are received.”

Contact details

Torbay Portage Services
Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Service
2nd Floor (Room SF 332) Electric House
Torbay Council, c/o Torquay Town Hall
Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR
T: 01803 208579
E: portageteam@torbay.gov.uk



All families receiving or waiting for the portage service are welcome to join the Torbay Portage Service facebook group.

This leaflet can be made available in other formats. For details please contact 01803 208271

21105

TORBAY COUNCIL



Torbay Portage Service

Family-focused home teaching and support service for young children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

A Portage Service registered with the National Portage Association.





What is Portage?

Portage is a home teaching service for families with pre-school children who have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). The success and popularity of Portage is based on the premise that it promotes parents/carers as the key figures in the development of their child.

Portage aims to enable parents/carers to become effective teachers of their own children using evidence based interventions and teaching strategies. All Portage Home Visitors (PHV) are key workers, co-ordinating family-focused services.



Good to know...

Your PHV can be your first point of contact when you do not know who else to get in touch with. They will keep in regular contact and offer support through home visits and/or telephone/video calls.

How will Portage Home Visitors work with me?

The PHV arranges to visit the parent/carer and the child at home on a regular basis. At first the PHV works closely with the parent/carer assessing the child's strengths and needs and the priorities of the family.

Time will be spent getting to know the child, what interests them and how best they learn new skills.

The PHV will liaise with other people involved with the child and prepare a shared plan of support.

The support plan is reviewed regularly together.



Good to know...

The plan will be broken down into small steps with an appropriate set of activities. These will include the child's known interests to ensure the teaching and learning is fun and enjoyable. The staff at the child's early years provision will be included in practising the activities in the plan.

