



# Child Disability Living Allowance

## What is Child DLA?

Child Disability Living Allowance (Child DLA) is a welfare benefit for disabled children under the age of 16.

## Who Qualifies?

Your child may qualify for Child DLA if they have a disability or health condition that meets the following three criteria:

- They have difficulty getting about
- They require more looking after than a child of the same age who does not have a disability
- They have had these difficulties for at least 3 months and are expected to have them for at least 6 months


## How Is It Assessed?


There are 2 components to Child DLA:


- 1 Care
- 2 Mobility

### 1 Care

The Care component can be paid to your child if they need a lot of extra help with personal care, supervision or being watched over. It is split into three different rates depending on your child's needs:

**Higher**  For children who need help or supervision throughout the day and night, or a medical professional has said they have less than 12 months to live

**Middle**  For children who need frequent help or constant supervision during the day or night

**Lower**  For children who need help with their personal care for some of the day



### Day Time

To satisfy the daytime test the child must need one of the following:

1. Frequent help with personal care (about 3 times per day or more) throughout the day
2. Someone to check on them continually (i.e. frequently or regularly) throughout the day to make sure that they are safe



### Night Time

To satisfy the night-time test the child must need one of the following:

1. Help with personal care at least twice a night, or once a night for at least 20 minutes
2. Someone to check on them at least twice a night, or once a night for at least 20 minutes to make sure that they are safe

## What Does Personal Care Refer To?



Seeing



Communicating



Breathing



Getting in & out of bed



Using the toilet



Getting in & out of a chair



Washing & bathing



Dressing & undressing




Help with medication




Eating & drinking

## 2 Mobility

The Mobility component can be paid to your child if they are unable or virtually unable to walk or they need substantially more guidance and supervision. It is split into two rates:

**Higher**  This can be paid to children from 3 years old, for children who are unable or virtually unable to walk or walking would cause them serious harm. Children can also qualify for this if they have a severe visual impairment, are both deaf and blind, or are severely mentally impaired.

**Lower**  This can be paid from 5 years old, for children who need extra guidance and supervision outdoors

## How We Can Help

If you live in the Barnsley borough and would like some advice on Child DLA, you can email us or call our advice line:



[first.contact@dialbarnsley.org.uk](mailto:first.contact@dialbarnsley.org.uk)



01226 240273

## How to Apply



Call the Disability Living Allowance helpline and ask for a printed form:  
**0800 121 4600**



Download and print of the form:  
[www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children/how-to-claim](http://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children/how-to-claim)

**If your child has a severe mental impairment, they could qualify for the higher rate Mobility component if they meet the following criteria:**

- Already entitled to the higher rate care component
- Suffer from a state of arrested development or incomplete physical development of the brain which results in severe mental impairment of intelligence or social functioning
- Exhibit disruptive behaviour which is extreme and regularly requires another person to intervene and physically restrain them
- Be so unpredictable that they require another person to watch over them whenever they are awake