



SEND

Special Educational Needs and/or Disability

Personal Budgets

An introduction to **personal budgets** for young people and children aged 0-25
with an **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan)**

What is a Personal Budget?

A **Personal Budget** is an allocation of money that can be used to meet some of the outcomes agreed in an **Education, Health and Care Plan** (EHC Plan) for a child or young person, aged 0-25, with a **special educational need** and/or a **disability**.

Who can request a Personal Budget?

Young people and parents/carers of children can request a personal budget once Shropshire Council has confirmed that it intends to prepare an EHC Plan. If you already have an EHC Plan or a Statement of Special Educational Need you can request a personal budget at the time of the annual review.

Although all young people and parents/carers of a child with an EHC Plan and those who are in the process of being assessed for an EHC Plan can request a personal budget, not everyone will be eligible for a personal budget.

All requests will be considered individually and in line with our Personal Budget Policy. You can find this on the council's Local Offer website (<http://shropshire.gov.uk/local-offer/>). The policy explains what type of support may be included in a personal budget. If it is not possible for you to have a personal budget the reasons will be explained to you.

A Personal Budget can apply to education, health and / or social care outcomes.

Shropshire Council and Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) are working with families and young people to develop our approach to personal budgets. You will be asked if you would like to be considered for a personal budget when a decision has been made to prepare (or review) an EHC Plan.

If a young person or a child with an EHC Plan is receiving a **Children Continuing Care (CCC) package** or a **social care support package** they may be eligible for a personal budget.

A personal budget for **educational provision** does not include funding for a school or college place. Generally, it also does not include specialist support that can be provided by a school or FE setting.

How to request a Personal Budget

Speak to the person who is preparing (or reviewing) your EHC Plan and a member of the council's Special Educational Needs (SEN) team will contact you to discuss your request.

How is a personal budget managed?

In Shropshire, there are four ways to manage a personal budget:

- ✓ **Direct Payment:** this means that you receive the money to buy and manage services yourself. Alternatively, you can nominate someone you trust to do this on your behalf.
- ✓ **Managed Fund:** this is where an arrangement can be made with the council or Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), so that they will manage the personal budget and organise the service agreed in the EHC Plan for you. You can still retain some choice and control of the service being organised for you.
- ✓ **Third party arrangement:** this is where money can be paid directly to the service and you make your own arrangements with the service provider. Alternatively, a local organisation can manage the budget for you.
- ✓ A **Combination** of the above options.

Where can I find more information about personal budgets?

You can contact the **SEN team** at Shropshire Council.

Website: [www.shropshire.gov.uk/special-education-needs-and-disability-\(send\)](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/special-education-needs-and-disability-(send))

Email: senteam@shropshire.gov.uk

Phone: 01743 254366

You can also speak to the independent **Information Advice and Support Service (IASS)** or **Independent Support Service (IS)**.

Website: www.cabshropshire.org.uk

Email: info@iass.org.uk

Phone: 01743 280019

You can find additional information and our **Personal Budget Policy** on **Shropshire's Local Offer:** <https://shropshire.local-offer.org/>



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