

Rhondda Cynon Taf's Criteria for Care and Support Planning by the Disabled Children's Service

The social model of disability says that disability is caused by the way society is organised, rather than by a person's impairment or difference. It looks at ways of removing barriers that restrict life choices for disabled children and young people.

The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, places an emphasis on strengths, capacity and capabilities (what can I do/how can I get help), to support disabled people to overcome barriers and achieve personal outcomes.

The definition of disability recognised by the Disabled Children's Service is found in the Equality Act 2010:

Disability is 'a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities'

An assessment will consider the substantial nature and impact of the impairment, barriers to be overcome, and whether personal outcomes can be achieved only if the local authority prepares a care and support plan, or support plan for carers.

The thresholds below guide care and support planning within the Disabled Children's Service when neither the child, the child's parents nor other persons in a parental role, either alone or with the assistance of community services, can achieve their personal outcomes.
(The Care and Support (Eligibility) (Wales) Regulations 2015)

Intensive Intervention (High)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child or young person's health and development are likely to be significantly impaired without the provision of a care and support plan. • Immediate danger and vulnerability of the child or young person. • Risk situation where the child is likely to suffer significant harm. • The child/young person requires significant support from another person or equipment to meet their wellbeing outcomes, e.g. personal care, eating, participating in activities, night time care, and this is likely to continue into adulthood. • Children and young people less than 18 years of age who have a terminal or life threatening illness. • Clear evidence of the imminent risk of family breakdown.
Early Intervention (Medium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is more than one disabled child in the household that requires substantial care. • Parents/carers have ill health or disability that impact on their caring role. • Environmental factors which have a significant impact on the child's health and development. • A very young parent needing support.
Universal (Low)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child/ young person require a basic level of care to participate in a wider range of activities. • Most needs can be met through universal services such as school; health care services and universally accessible community services not requiring a care and support plan.

Our resources will be focused on care and support planning that requires intensive intervention. Where a child does not meet the criteria for care and support from the disabled children's service then it will be determined whether support is needed from early intervention or universal services.