

Needs Criteria: SHINE Club (Supporting, High-needs, Individuals with Nurturing Engagement)

18+ Disability Social Support Club

To ensure our club provides the most effective support to those who need it most, participants must meet the following criteria. This helps us maintain a safe, inclusive, and well-supported environment for all members.

1. Eligibility Criteria

Age

- Must be aged **18 or over**.

Disability

- Must have a **diagnosed learning disability, developmental disability, neurodivergent condition** (e.g. autism spectrum condition, ADHD), **sensory impairment**, or **physical disability**.
- Individuals in the **process of formal assessment or diagnosis** may also be considered, where there is **supporting evidence** from a relevant professional (e.g. health, education, social care).

Support Needs

- Requires **social support** to access and engage in community-based activities.
- May experience **social isolation**, limited friendships, or other **barriers to participation** due to disability-related needs.

Level of Independence

- May attend **independently** or with a **support worker/carers**, depending on individual needs and risk assessment.

- Must **not present a risk of significant harm to others**, unless there is a clear **risk management plan** in place and sufficient staffing support has been agreed.
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2. Medical and Personal Care Needs

Medical Care Needs – Not Supported On-Site

Due to the limitations of our setting, we are **unable to support individuals with high or ongoing medical care needs**. The following is **not available** on-site:

- No medical staff (e.g. nurses or trained health professionals)
- No medication administration (e.g. injections, suppositories, or feeding tubes)
- No suctioning, oxygen therapy, or PEG feeding
- No emergency medical care beyond basic first aid
- No medical waste disposal facilities

Participants requiring any of the above must attend with a **trained personal assistant or carer** who can manage their care needs throughout the session.

Personal Care Needs – Limited Facilities

Our setting is **community-based** and lacks specialist personal care equipment. The following applies:

- **No hoist**, changing bench, or adult-sized changing facilities
- **No manual handling or lifting** by staff
- **No intimate personal care** (e.g. toileting, continence care, bathing, changing pads) unless carried out by the participant's own support worker

Participants must be able to manage their **personal care needs independently** or with their **own support**.

3. Priority Will Be Given To Individuals Who:

- Have **limited or no access** to other appropriate social groups or services

- Are at risk of **social isolation or loneliness**
 - Are in a **transition phase** (e.g. leaving youth services or education)
 - Have a **carer or family member** who is experiencing stress or needs respite
 - Would benefit from a **structured and supported environment** to build life skills, confidence and friendships
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4. Exclusion Criteria (For Safety and Suitability)

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept individuals who:

- Require **high-level or complex medical or personal care** that cannot be safely provided in our setting
 - Display **high-risk behaviours** (e.g. persistent aggression, absconding, serious safeguarding risks) unless attending with appropriate 1:1 support
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Needs Criteria: SHINE Club (Supporting, High-needs, Individuals with Nurturing Engagement)

6-17+ Disability Social Support Club

This club offers a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for children and young people with disabilities. To ensure we meet the needs of participants appropriately and safely, all attendees must meet the following criteria.

1. Eligibility Criteria

Age

- Children and young people aged **6 to 17 years** are eligible to attend.

Disability

- Must have a **diagnosed learning disability, developmental condition** (e.g. autism, ADHD), **sensory impairment, physical disability**, or other recognised

additional needs.

- Those in the **process of assessment or diagnosis** may also be considered, where there is **supporting evidence** from a health, education, or social care professional.

Support Needs

- Requires support to access and engage in social, recreational, or structured activities.
- May experience challenges with communication, social interaction, emotional regulation, or confidence in group settings.
- Would benefit from structured opportunities to develop **friendships, independence, and life skills** in a supportive environment.

Supervision and Staffing

- Children and young people will be supported by trained staff and volunteers under appropriate **staff-to-child ratios**, determined by individual needs.
- If a young person requires **1:1 support** or has high behavioural needs, this must be discussed in advance. Families may be asked to provide external support staff where appropriate.
- For some children, particularly younger ones or those with complex needs, a **parent or carer may be required to stay** on-site until a suitable care plan is established.

2. Medical and Personal Care Needs

Medical Needs – Not Supported On-Site

Our setting is not a clinical facility. We are unable to provide support for children or young people with high or complex medical needs. The following services are **not available**:

- No trained medical staff (e.g. nurses)
- No administration of invasive medication (e.g. injections, suppositories, feeding tubes)

- No PEG feeding, oxygen therapy, or suctioning
- No emergency medical care beyond basic first aid
- No sharps or clinical waste disposal facilities

Children requiring medical intervention during the session must attend with a **trained parent, carer, or support worker** capable of delivering that care.

Personal Care Needs – Limitations Based on Age and Physical Needs

We understand that some children and young people may need personal care support, and that older participants (aged 16–17) may have adult-sized physical care needs. However, we are a community-based setting with limited facilities.

The following applies:

- We **do not have a hoist**, adult-sized changing bench, or clinical changing room
- Staff are **not trained to lift or transfer** young people who are non-weight-bearing
- Staff can provide **basic support** (e.g. toileting prompts, clothing adjustments, handwashing assistance) where this is agreed and recorded, with **parental consent** and safeguarding protocols in place
- We **cannot provide intimate personal care** (e.g. nappy or pad changing, full toileting support, bathing, menstruation care) unless:
 - A **personal care plan** is in place
 - The young person attends with a trained carer/support worker able to meet their needs

Participants aged **16–17** who require **adult-sized equipment or intimate personal care** must be risk-assessed prior to joining and may only attend where support arrangements are suitable and safe.

3. Priority Will Be Given To Children and Young People Who:

- Are **socially isolated** or have limited access to inclusive, age-appropriate opportunities

- Are not currently attending other structured support, youth, or short breaks services
 - Are in **transition phases** (e.g. moving between schools or into adulthood)
 - Would benefit from a **low-arousal, sensory-informed, or structured setting**
 - Have a parent or carer in need of **respite** or experiencing high levels of carer stress
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4. Exclusion Criteria (For Safety and Suitability)

We regret that we are unable to accommodate children or young people who:

- Require **complex or ongoing medical support** beyond what our staff can safely provide
- Require **intimate or manual personal care** that cannot be supported through an agreed care plan or carer attendance
- Display **high-risk behaviours** (e.g. aggression, absconding, or behaviour that places others at risk) unless attending with appropriate 1:1 support and risk management plan
- Are **not toilet-trained** and require regular changing, without a personal care plan or designated carer in place
- Are under the **influence of drugs or alcohol** (relevant for older teens only)