

DABD(uk) Independent Travel Training Scheme (ITTS)

LB Havering
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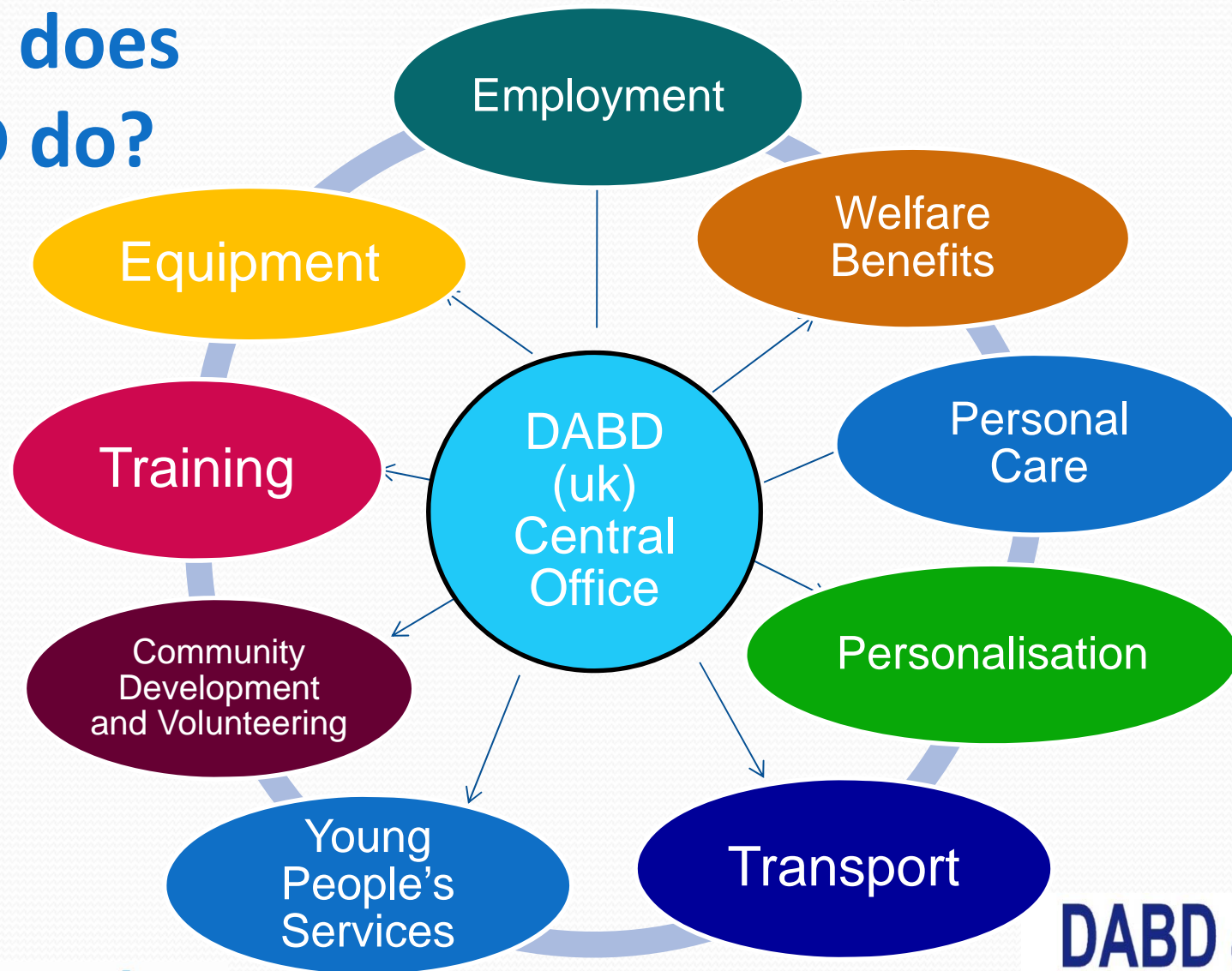


What does DABD do?

Who we are

- DABD (uk) – A charitable organisation working with and supporting excluded people across London and the UK
- We celebrate Diverse Ability - working with individuals, local authorities, organisations and communities to develop services to promote independent living and inclusion
- We believe that everyone should have the opportunity for personal development to live their lives as independently as possible and of their choosing

What does DABD do?



Travel Training

- DABD(uk) is working in partnership with the LB Havering and other local service providers to increase the independence of adults with additional needs living in Havering who were being transported to and from their place of education or day centre by the Authority each day
- Travel Training has been used successfully in other areas across the UK to successfully increase the social inclusion of vulnerable individuals



Travel Assistance

- **ASSISTANCE** is a key word – this does not mean the provision has to be borough transport or a taxi as has been expected in the past. Individuals who have specific travel needs will always be offered the most independent and personally enabling solution for their situation.
- Assistance methods that may be granted include - Travel Training or Direct Payments can be used where the individual has a clear assessment of need with an identified outcome ie: to be travel trained to become independent in travelling within the local community.
- Where travel assistance is agreed the most cost-effective method of support that meets the individual's needs must always be used.

Support to Trainee Travellers

- A family's support, co-operation and agreement to each step is crucial to a positive outcome for the trainee.
- Parents/Carers can be very anxious about the transition to independence as will the Trainee Traveller who has been used to being transported everywhere.
- The expectation is that Trainees will complete their Travel Training within 12 weeks if they are able to retain required information. In some circumstances this may be longer.
- Very vulnerable individuals may **always** need support in the local community when travelling.



Why Travel Training?

- Travel Training enables individuals to become more independent in their own community
- It improves – Self confidence
 - Coping skills
 - Self help skills and personal responsibility
 - Volunteering opportunities
 - Access to Further Education
 - Employability
- Travel Training should lead to less long term dependencies on Borough Adult Social Services provisions.

What Do Individuals Learn?

- Journey preparation and planning (e.g. what items to take, learning route, landmarks, suitable clothing etc.)
- Using public transport - buses and trains
- Handling money and paying fares
- Using technology (e.g. use of smartcards and mobile phones)
- Confidence in communication
- Telling the time and understanding information sources such as timetables and real time information displays
- Personal and road safety (e.g. Stranger danger, use of pedestrian crossing etc)
- Appropriate behaviours
- Coping strategies
- Travelling in the dark/at night

Continuing Assistance

- LB Havering and DABD(uk) recognise that some very vulnerable individuals will require long term community support. This would be identified and supported under Community Care Assessment.



Barriers and Enablers

- For people with physical, sensory and learning disabilities, access and routes to public transport need to be safe with easy to use and well designed road crossings in order for them to independently access public transport.
- For a wheelchair user, a wheelchair needs to be light and manoeuvrable in order to facilitate independent boarding of both public and private transport (including personal cars/taxis).
- For deaf people, improved awareness and attitudes of transport staff are important in ensuring they can successfully use public transport.



Referrals

- Referrals for training are made directly from the Local Authority Social Services department. Colleges and Day provisions do not make direct referrals.
- If an individual has Direct Payments or an independent budget, they, their social worker or main Carer can refer direct to DABD (uk) for Travel Training.
- A referral form, detailing the person's contact information and Additional Needs is always required to enable DABD (uk) to undertake an assessment of suitability for training



Personalisation

- One size does not fit all! Individual Travel Plans will be resolved through a planning meeting taking into account the difficulties that may be presented by the individual in acquiring the skills they need to be independent travellers.
- The Trainee Traveller will always be involved as much as possible in choices, decision making and route planning



Parent/Carers

DABD(uk) supports Parents and Carers through the process by

- Feeding back weekly on the individual's progress
- Discussing Parental/Carer concerns as they arise
- We make referrals on behalf of individual or family such as benefits advice, social activities and other information
- Liaising directly with colleges and day service provisions



Goals for the Future

- Individuals being taught today will be the independent travellers of tomorrow and for the rest of their lives
- People with additional needs will have freedom of choice in employment, volunteering and leisure activities through the skills they gain and accessible public transport.
- People with additional needs will be a visible part of their local community and will be able to access services when they want to, not just when they are supported to do so.



Case Study 1

- N- Is 25 years old
- Attends college Mon –Thurs 4 days a week
- N- Has a learning Disability
- Journey from home to college was by bus.
- During the initial Assessment meeting the parents of N were very keen and supportive of the programme as they felt that this would further provide independence to N.

- **N** - Had a desire to become more independent as previously received support to venture into Romford on the bus by her mother, but was unwilling to try public transport to journey to college on her own.
- A Trainer was introduced to the family and the training commenced on 26.2.13 and training was completed 21.3.13 = 4 weeks
- **N**- Achieved the required skills and experience necessary to attend College independently using public transport within 4 weeks

- Feedback from the parents of N advise that
- They were in agreement with the initial targets set for N by DABD (uk) following the risk assessment and travel plans.
- They were happy with the weekly progress that was being made
- They were happy and confident that N can now travel independently as a result of the training from DABD (uk) and would recommend the service to other users.

CASE STUDY 2

- S – Age 18
- Attends Barking & Dagenham College, Romford - 4 days per week.
- S has Down Syndrome, Moderate Learning Disabilities, Speech, Language and Communication Needs.
- Journey from home to college was by one bus.
- At the initial assessment meeting it was clear that his parents, although concerned for S's vulnerability, were keen for him to be as independent as possible and were supportive of the programme.

CASE STUDY 2

- They advised that **S** had never been out alone and lacked road and personal safety awareness. He was vulnerable and had some mobility and speech issues but would try and make himself understood. He was a chatty young man with a creative imagination; he had a good sense of direction and good money skills.
- A Trainer was introduced to the family and the training commenced on 26.1.12 and training was completed 8.3.12 = 6 weeks
- The following was written by S parents on the feedback form sent after completion of his training

CASE STUDY 2

- “This training has greatly helped S to take an important step in his life. It has given S confidence to travel by himself to college and us confidence that he is safe to do so.
- A big thank you to his Trainer for all his care, S really enjoyed training with him”.

DABD (uk)



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