



Useful information...

DLA Enquiry Line:

Telephone: 0345 712 3456

Textphone: 0345 722 4433

PIP

Telephone: 0800 917 2222

Textphone: 0800 917 7777

Offers free and confidential advice

Disabled Student Allowance

DSAs are grants to help pay the extra costs you may have as a direct result of your disability, long-term health condition, mental-health condition, or specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia or dyspraxia. You don't have to pay these back. www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances

Student Finance England

Telephone: 0300 100 0607

Arthritis care tel: 0808 800 4050

www.arthritiscare.org.uk

Useful websites:

Turn2us- A charitable service which helps people access the money available to them, through welfare benefits, grants and other help. www.turn2us.org.uk

Free site that can save you moneymoneysavingexpert.com (this site has an excellent budget planner)) plus other advice

Department of Rheumatology

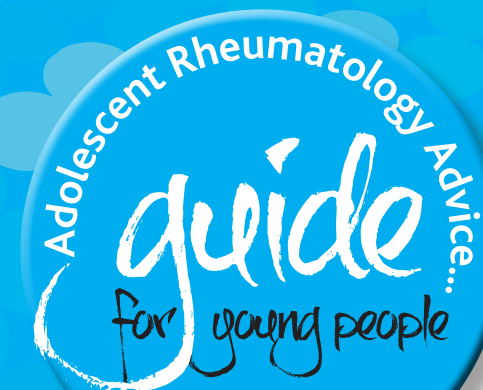
Occupational therapy	0121 333 8212
Physiotherapy	0121 333 8221
Nurse	0121 333 8219
Consultant	0121 333 8209

Data Protection

We collect information about our young people and families relevant to their diagnosis and treatment. We store it in written records and on computer. We may have to share some of your information with other people and organisations. If you have any questions and/or do not want us to share that information with others, please talk to the Adolescent Rheumatology team or contact PALS (Patient Advice and Liaison Service) on (0121) 333 8403/8611.



Money Matters



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[@RheumatBCH](https://twitter.com/RheumatBCH)

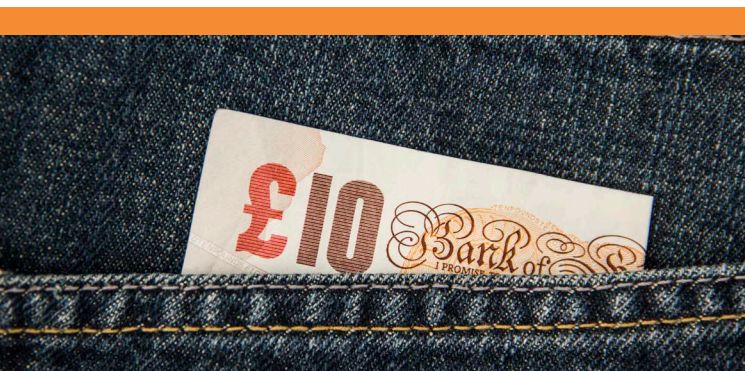
E: questions@kidslikeus.info
www.kidslikeus.info



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What Benefits?

Some young people and/or their families may be entitled to some financial assistance to help with the cost of living with a chronic condition. Not everyone will be entitled to these benefits however and every case is considered on an individual basis.

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

DLA is a tax-free benefit which you may be entitled to if you need help with personal care or have walking difficulties as a result of your condition. The benefit has two parts to it; a care component for personal care and a mobility component which considers your ability to get about.

Everybody who applies for DLA must:

- Live in Great Britain
- Have needed help for the last 3 months
- Be likely to need help for the next 6 months

DLA considers your needs and how your condition affects you. It is not related to your family income or living circumstances.

The Care Component

You may be entitled to this part of the DLA if you require help with your personal care. This component can be awarded at 3 different rates, (lower, middle and higher) and is assessed in relation to your ability to carry out activities such as getting dressed, washing, getting in and out of bed and taking medication.

The Mobility Component

This part of the benefit is awarded if you need help getting around and is split into 2 rates (lower and higher) depending on the severity of your difficulties. If you are awarded the higher rate, you can apply to start driving at the age of 16!

Further Information

Check out the DLA website for further information about DLA and to find out whether you will be eligible. It also gives guidance on how to fill out the form.

www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/FinancialSupport

Personal Independence Payments

Once you are 16 DLA is moved to PIP which supports the extra costs of long term health conditions health or disability . If you currently do not receive PIP you can find out more [www.gov.uk/pip/ Support and Advice](http://www.gov.uk/pip/Support%20and%20Advice)

The Family Fund

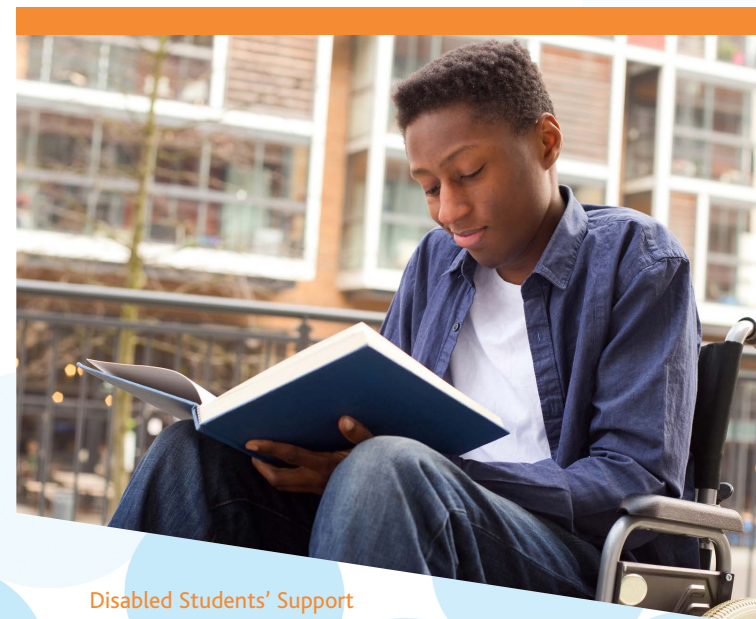
The Family Fund helps families with severely disabled or seriously ill children and young people aged 17. They give grants for things that make life easier and more enjoyable for the disabled child, young person and their family, such as washing machines, driving lessons, computers and holidays Tel: 01904 621115 www.familyfund.org.uk

Contact A Family

Cash Counts is CAFs one stop shop for benefits advice and tips for families with disabled children [www.cafamily.org.uk/advice-and-support/-Select Getting into debt page](http://www.cafamily.org.uk/advice-and-support/-Select%20Getting%20into%20debt%20page), which gives information on benefits as well as dealing with money. www.cafamily.org.uk/advice-and-support/ Tel: 0808 808 3555

Financial Benefits for Students

Access to Learning Fund If you're in hardship and need extra financial support, universities and colleges in England can provide it through their Access to Learning Fund. You can apply if you're a full-time or part-time higher education student, whether you're doing an undergraduate or postgraduate course. For more info visit: www.direct.gov.uk



Disabled Students' Support

Sources of extra financial help for disabled students include types of student finance and benefits. These are paid on top of the standard student finance package and include:

- Disabled Students Allowances (Student Finance England)
- Access to Learning Fund (from your university or college)
- Incapacity Benefit (Jobcentre Plus)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Jobcentre Plus)

Have a chat with your OT who can assess if you are eligible for funding

A little bit
of help can
make a huge
difference

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