



APPLYING FOR DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE (DLA)

**Top Tips
by Parents!**

BEFORE APPLYING

Contact your GP to inform them of your child's disability.

WHAT SUPPORT
IS IN PLACE?

Speak to your child's school, college or childcare setting; ask for an outline of how your child's needs are met in school.



Re-read any reports relating to your child, such as a medical report, speech and language report, education, health and care plan, one page profile, early help assessment etc. These can be used to help complete the form and provide evidence of your child's needs.

WHAT BREAK
TIMES DOES
MY CHILD GET?

Think about who you can ask to complete the section, "Someone Who Knows Your Child". This could be a teacher, special educational needs co-ordinator, other professional, family friend, club leader, childminder etc.

While you are waiting for the form to arrive, keep a diary or notes of all the additional things you do on a daily & nightly basis for your child, which another child of the same age would not require.

Apply for the form by
phone,

0800 121 4600

or online:

<https://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children/how-to-claim>

COMPLETING THE FORMS



Don't try and attempt the form in one go. It can be emotionally difficult. Plan a coffee break after about an hour and a small treat after two.

Imagine you're writing an instruction guide for someone who doesn't know your child but who is going to care for them.

Give examples of your child's difficulties, how they impact on their daily life and what you need to do to on a daily basis to be able to meet their needs.

Quote from any reports that you are going to send with the form.



Only write what your child can't do - or the things you have to do for your child.



If a professional has advised you to apply, mention it.

Write in plain English.

Assume the person reading the form doesn't know anything about your child's needs / disability.



CARE

Section 1

Think of the 24-hour clock and everything you do throughout the full 24 hours. Anything after 11pm will need to be listed in the night time section.

Think of a child the same age and explain how your child's care needs differ.

If left unsupervised what is likely to happen to your child or what may they do?

If your child was in danger, would they be able to tell someone or move out of the way?

Don't be afraid to repeat yourself.

Think of how your child reacts to changes to their routine, whether planned or unplanned.

How do
commun
speech, v

Imagine your child was lost, what help would they need to communicate.

Does your child communicate? Signs, visual aids?

Does your child understand and follow instructions?

What happens when your child can't understand or be understood?

Think about how well your child can understand facial expressions.

When your child is with other children how does your child respond to them?

COMMUNICATION

Section 2

MOBILITY

Section 3

When outside of the home, how does your child react to noise and light?

Does your child refuse to walk, if so what happens?

Does your child understand stranger danger or road danger?

What aids does your child use? Insoles, ear defenders etc...

Make clear (with examples), the level of supervision needed

If in a busy shop or on public transport how does it affect your child?

BEFORE
YOU SEND



Ask someone who knows your child well, to read the form and suggest anything you may have missed out.

Re-read the form before sending it off.

Attachw all documents you have referred to in the form and anything that may give hard evidence of your child's condition/needs.

Keep a copy of everything you send.



NEED SOME MORE HELP?

Himmat Support Centre

Midway Business Centre, 703 Stockport Road, M12 4QN
Monday and Tuesday 10am-3pm
Telephone: 0161 224 7250, Email: nadia_himmat@outlook.com

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Lifted Carers Centre

Alpha House, Rowlandsway, Wythenshawe, Manchester, M22 5RG
Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm
Telephone: 0161 498 0312, Email: emma@liftedcarerscentre.org.uk

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Talbot House Support Centre

1 High Peak Street, Newton Heath, Manchester, M40 3AT
Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm
Telephone: 0161 203 4095, Email: admin@talbot-house.org.uk

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Carers Link

Appointments at different venues
Telephone: 0333 323 1990 option 1, then option 4
Email: vmellor@carerstrust4all.org.uk

NOW THAT YOU'RE DONE



Check out the Local Offer to see what else is out there.
www.manchester.gov.uk/sendlocaloffer

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