

# West Berkshire Shared Lives

This leaflet explains what West Berkshire Shared Lives can do for you

## How to contact us



Call us on:  
01635 520173



Or come and see us at:  
The Phoenix Resource Centre,  
Newtown Road, Newbury  
Berkshire RG14 7EB



email: [sharedlives@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:sharedlives@westberks.gov.uk)

## Equal Opportunities

If you need this information in a different language, or recorded and spoken aloud, please ask someone to contact the Customer Services Team



by telephone on **01635 551111**



by email on [customerservices@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@westberks.gov.uk)



## What is Shared Lives?

The scheme supports Shared Lives Carers to offer a family based environment to individuals based upon interests, experiences and needs.

The Shared Lives Scheme recruits carers and families who can offer care and support to individuals from the age of 16 with an assessed social care need, by including them in their family and community life. This gives people in need of support, a chance to gain skills that will help them to live a more independent life, with the help of a carer.



## Getting the right support

A care manager and someone from the Shared Lives team will talk to you and other important people in your life to find out what support you need.

We will work with you to choose a carer who is right for you, this is called matching.



## How can we help you

The Shared Lives Scheme can organise and facilitate an arrangement with an approved Shared Lives Carer, to offer a range of Shared Lives support, including:

- Long-Term support which means living with a Carer and their family, in their home.
- Short Term breaks.
- Day Support in the Carers home or in the community.

We would like to help you live an ordinary life, enjoy activities in your community and be part of your carer's family life.

## Comments from people within the Scheme

*"Shared Lives has made my life immensely better in the best way possible"*

*"It is so rewarding being a Shared Lives carer as you are helping a whole household which is extremely worthwhile. You are doing a positive service for customers and their families"*

*"Everything! Being a carer is everything to me. It is not a job, it is my life. Supporting my service users is so rewarding. They are family members to me and I include them in everything I do."*