

Portsmouth Portage Service

Working with you to support
your child's development

A specialist
teaching service
for young children
with special
educational needs
and disabilities



Portsmouth Portage Team

We are a home-visiting specialist teaching service for pre-school age children (0-4) who may have a special educational need or a disability (SEND).

We work together with you and your child.

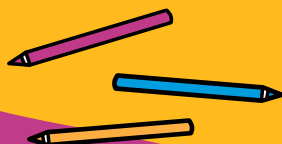
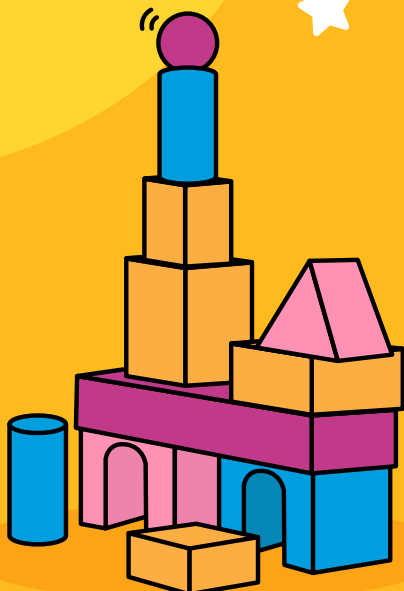
What is Portage?

Portage is for children from birth to school age who have a six month delay in two or more areas of their development. A Portage home visitor will visit your home for one hour every week during term time, for up to a year to support your child's development through play.



DID YOU KNOW?

Portage takes its name from the town in Wisconsin, USA where Portage started.



What is Portage Plus?

Portage Plus is for pre-school children who have significant needs with socialising and communication, such as playing with others and being able to tell you what they would like or need.

A Portage home visitor will visit your home for one hour every week, during term time, for 12 sessions to show ideas to support your child's development.

"All children are able to learn. Building on abilities and strengths, rather than focusing on difficulties, best supports their progress."

(National Portage Association)



Portage home visitors will:

- ★ Use play to build on what your child enjoys and can do, making learning fun for them.
- ★ Work with you to choose activities to help with your child's development.
- ★ Break down activities into small steps to help your child to achieve.
- ★ Work with other carers, relevant professionals, therapists, childminders and nurseries.
- ★ Lend you toys.
- ★ Share information with you about groups and activities in your local area.

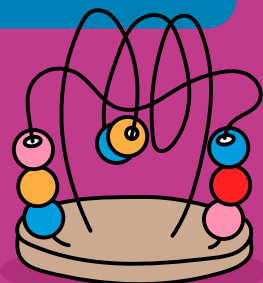


Quotes from families

"During a difficult time, my Portage worker brought us structure, strategies, and hope! He would not have been ready for school without her help and support".



"Home visits and supporting families with their child's needs and development really helps parents understand how to interact positively with their child for better outcomes".



How to access the service

As a parent/carer you can self-refer your child or ask a professional involved to complete our referral form.

This can be found by searching 'portage' at portsmouthlocaloffer.org

You can get in touch directly with Portage by calling **023 9268 8612** or by emailing portage@portsmouthcc.gov.uk



023 9268 8612

