

Portage



If you would like to make a referral to our service,
please contact us at:

Northumberland Portage Service

South View
Ashington
Northumberland
NE63 0SF

Phone: 01670 622741/624716

Admin: Lisa Headington
lisa.headington@northumberland.gov.uk

Portage Lead: Carol MacDonald
caroljane.macdonald@northumberland.gov.uk

or, complete online referral form at:
www.northumberland.gov.uk

If you need this information in Large
Print, Braille, Audio or in another
format or language please contact us:

Telephone: 0345 600 6400

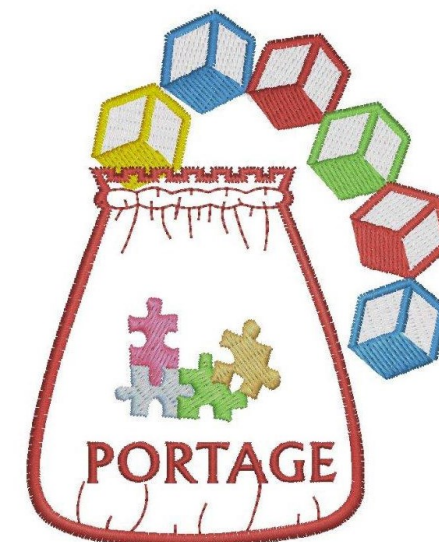
Typetalk: 018001 0845 600 6400

Email :contactcentre@northumberland.gov.uk

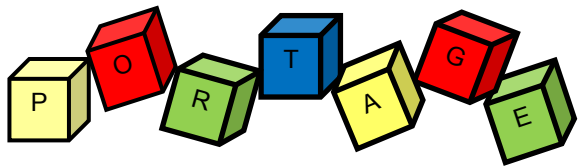
Northumberland Portage Service

'A Birth to Five Home
Teaching Service for children
with SEND

Information Leaflet for Parents



Northumberland
Northumberland County Council



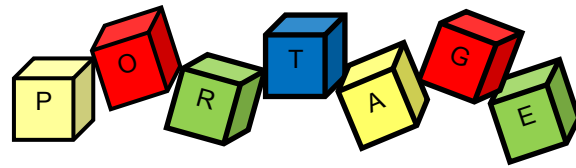
What is Portage?

Portage is a home teaching service for pre-school children with SEND. It enables parents and carers to support their child's learning.



The Northumberland Portage Team has a wide range of experience supporting children and their families.

The service is registered with the National Portage Association. Each Home Visitor is trained and qualified to carry out 'Portage' and deliver training to parents/carers and professionals.



How Portage Works

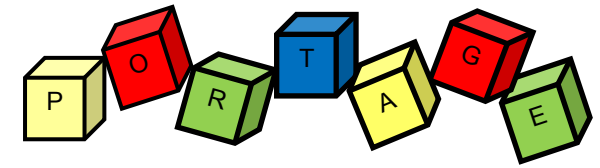
A Portage Home Visitor will visit the family home for approximately one hour each week. Together parents, carers and Home Visitors plan activities to encourage and promote their child's learning and skills.

If there are other services already working with your child then your Portage Home Visitor will:

- Arrange joint home visits
- Plan targets which can be combined with those of other professionals
- Keep them up to date with what your child is doing and working towards



"Portage really gave me the confidence and the knowledge to draw out the very best from my child" [Quote from Parent]



What Happens During a Home Visit?

- The family and the Home Visitor agree a time for weekly or fortnightly visits
- Following an initial assessment long term goals are agreed with parents/carers
- Weekly teaching activities based around play are planned and demonstrated by the Home Visitor and carried out during the week by parents/carers
- Long Term Goals are regularly reviewed and celebrated



The Portage Home Visitor shares information and supports the child's transition into a pre-school setting / school