 

**RESPITALITY IN SHETLAND THROUGH VAS**

**Some points to bear in mind when registering for Respitality as an unpaid carer:**

* The offer of a Respitality break is for the carer and **one** companion, where relevant and cannot be passed on to anyone else. These are usually not suitable for families.
* You may need to bring photo ID to show you are the person to whom the break has been allocated to.
* If you find that you are unable to take up your Respitality gift for any reason please get in touch as soon as possible so that we can allocate it to another carer.
* Carers are responsible for arranging alternative care for their cared for person, should it be required. If you find making arrangements difficult let us know and we will try to advise you.
* Carers must make their own arrangements for any travel required to get to the venue. Please get in touch if you have difficulty making travel plans and we will help you look over the options.
* Although Respitality Gifts are offered to carers without charge, the range of facilities included in the offer vary according to the provider and carers are responsible to meet any costs that fall outside that of the offered break.

**Allocation of Gifts:**

* VAS will keep a register of carers who have applied for a Respitality gift.
* Breaks will be allocated on a first come first serve basis, consideration will be given regarding the type of break and the needs and requirements of the carer.
* If a break isn’t suitable to a carer, it will be passed on to the next person on the register. We will keep your place on the list until you are able to take up a suitable gift.
* Once you have taken up a gift it is unlikely that you will be offered a second one as there are many carers on the list and the number of gifts are few!  The speed with which you are offered a Respitality gift depends on how many are made available and how many carers are registered.

If you would like to register for Respitality please either complete the online sign up form at [www.shetlandcarers.org/respitality](http://www.shetlandcarers.org/respitality) or we can send you a paper version.

**Please note, you should not contact these gift providers directly to discuss Respitality.**If you require more information on the Respitality services offered by these providers, please get in touch with us.