

Transition and beyond - A guide for parents or carers of young people with a disability (part 1)

What is transition?

Transition and beyond

Transition refers to the process of moving into adulthood.

This can be a challenging time for a young person and their family.

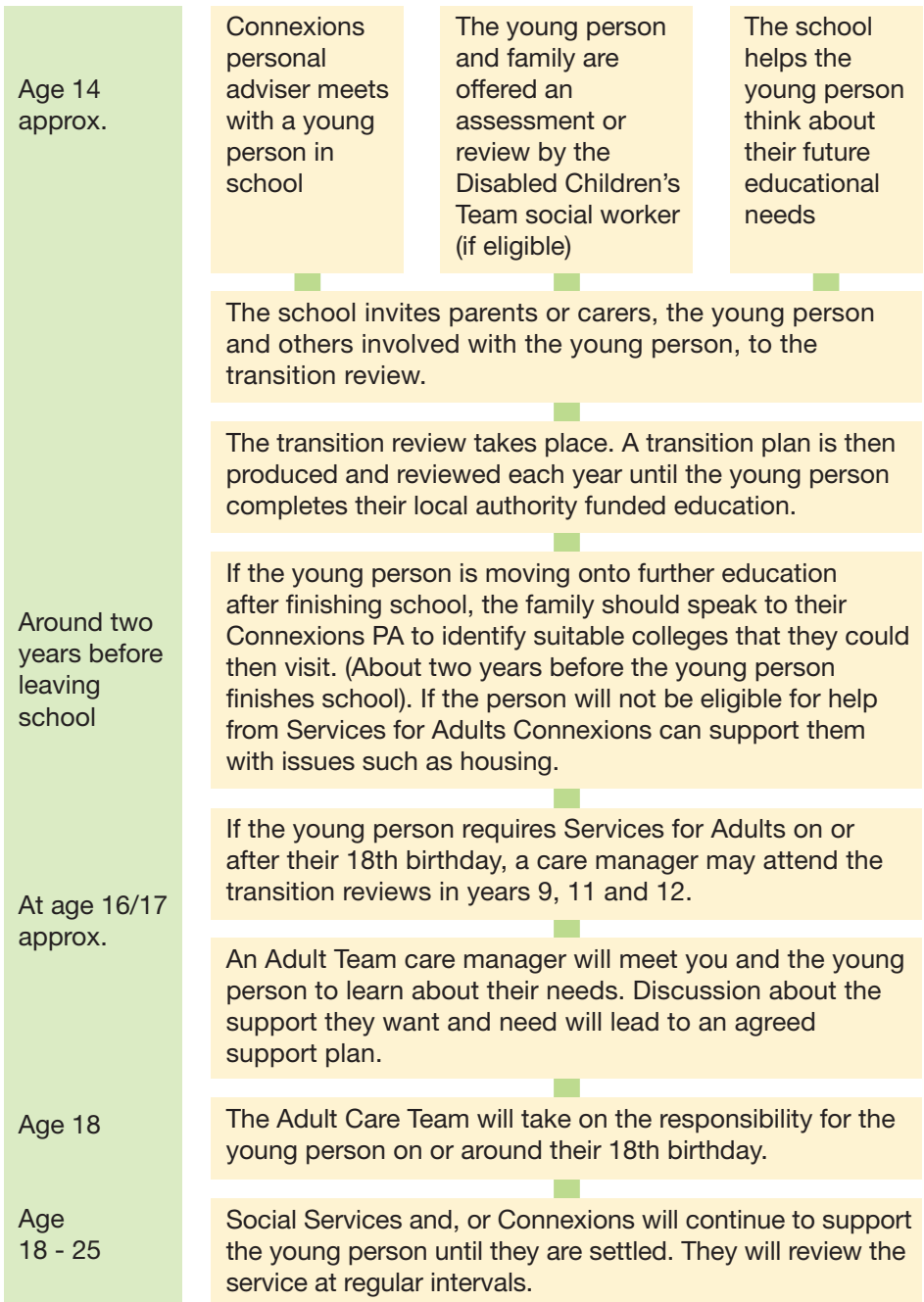
Thinking about options and planning for the future starts at the Special Educational Needs Transition review in year 9, when the young person is 14 years old.

To make sure you get the best from the review you need to prepare. Think about what the person you care for likes to do and what they are good at. Consider what information and support might be needed during the transition and also when they are an adult.

Questions for you to think about and ask

- Who are the important contacts and how do I reach them?
- What options are available for the person I care for when they leave school?
- How can I support with plans towards independence?
- What can I do to help prepare to leave education?
- Is independent or supported living an option?
- What support will we get to make sure any move is a success?
- What financial assistance might be available?

Transition Flow chart



Transition planning

If the person you care for has a disability or long-term health condition, it is likely that one or more of the following people may be able to provide services or support for your family throughout transition.

- School or college: headteacher, teacher, learning support assistant, special educational needs (SEN)
- Social worker from the Disabled Children's Team
- Connexions personal adviser
- A duty care manager from Services for Adults
- Health professionals: school nurse, GP, specialist physician, Mental Health Team
- Special Educational Needs Team (local authority)
- Websites and external general help
- A care manager from the Sensory Services Team
- Transition coordinator



To prepare your plans, it can be helpful to gather information on the range of options and providers before making decisions. Please refer to other leaflets in this series for options and contacts for helpful agencies.

Services for children and for adults

At 18, a young person becomes an adult in the eyes of the law and they are seen as an individual in their own right.

As a child their needs have been considered as part of a family, but as an adult they alone are considered in any assessments. At this time parents or carers can request a separate carer's assessment to work out their needs and how they are best supported in their caring role. There may be services or support available for you as carers following this assessment.

The transition review

Once a young person has a statement of special educational needs it is reviewed each year. In year 9 (age 14), this is called the transition review and is important as it starts to plan for when the young person leaves school. The planning process is important and will continue until the young person is settled in the next stage of education or training, or until the age of 25, whichever is sooner.

The topics discussed at the review are the hopes, aspirations, needs and wants of the young person, their parents or carers and professionals. The review plans for when the person leaves school, looks at what options there are to meet their hopes, what help will be needed and who can offer this.

After the meeting, the school draws up a transition plan which states plans and actions for the future. This plan is reconsidered at subsequent reviews, becoming more detailed as the time for leaving school draws closer.

A part of the review process is a written report of the young person's educational and training needs and what is required to meet them.

This moving forward plan is prepared by the Connexions personal adviser (PA).

This is offered to all young people with statements when they leave statutory education.



The transition review

Parents and young people can say if they think the support identified in the statement is still meeting their needs.

Following discussion at the review, any changes to the statement will be considered by the education panel.

If you do not agree with the decision the local authority has made there are seven different grounds for appeal to the independent SEN and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST).

You can obtain a free booklet about the SENDIST Tribunal:
Phone: 01325 392555 E-mail: tribunalqueries@sendist.gsi.gov.uk



Person-centred approaches

A person-centred approach is where each individual is at the centre of all planning for their future.

Young people with a learning disability may be offered a person-centred year 9 review. These help the young person be involved in the review and help them to tell people what they want for the future. This style of review looks at all aspects of a person's life.

Whichever the style of review, it is useful for you and the young person to think about what you want to say and ask.

Education, health and social care services in Richmond upon Thames all work in a person-centred way, involving individuals in the decisions effecting their lives. They use innovative, creative ways to tell people about options, help them consider their preferences and make decisions for the future. However able or disabled a person is, they can be supported to make choices.

Parents and carers can help in this by discussing options and make notes about recording people choices, wants, wishes and needs.

More information about person-centred approaches and planning can be found on the following websites:

www.valuingpeople.gov.uk

www.handsoffmyplan.co.uk



Useful local contacts

Richmond Council website

www.richmond.gov.uk

Disabled Children's Service

Croft Centre, 16 Windham Road, Kew, Richmond TW9 2HP

Phone: 020 8831 6060

Minicom 020 8831 6049

E-mail: dct@richmond.gov.uk

Richmond Direct Contact Centre

For people 18 and over to ask for help from Services for Adults.

Phone: 020 8891 7971

Minicom: 07800 002439

E-mail: adultsocialservices@richmond.gov.uk

Sensory Team

The Sensory Services Team support adults with visual or hearing impairment.

Room 9, Centre House, 68 Sheen Lane, Sheen SW14 8LP

Day tel: 020 8487 1760

Fax: 020 8487 1761

Minicom: 020 8487 1762

E-mail: senservteam@richmond.gov.uk

Special Educational Needs Team

They produce a range of leaflets on SEN and transition.

42 York Street, Twickenham TW1 3BW

Phone: 020 8891 7541

Richmond Connexions Service

1 Ilex House, 94 Holly Road, Twickenham TW1 4HF

Phone: 020 8891 6162

www.wayahead-careers.com

E-mail: tdavies@cfbt.com

Useful local contacts

Richmond Parents Partnership

For information about special educational needs assessment procedures and decisions.

Phone: 020 8831 6179

Richmond AID

4 Waldegrave Road, Teddington TW1 8HT

Provides free advice and information on any aspect of disability.

Advice Line: 020 8831 6070

Textphone: 020 8831 6078

E-mail: advice@richmondaid.org.uk

Richmond Mencap

342 Richmond Road, East Twickenham TW1 2DU

Phone: 020 8744 1923

E-mail: richmondmencap@btopenworld.com

CORLD

(Creating Opportunities in Richmond for People with Learning Disabilities) support and advice organisation for individuals, carers and professionals.

Phone: 020 8977 5447

E-mail: info@corld.org.uk

www.corld.org.uk

Becky Powell, Transition Co-ordinator

Richmond upon Thames Community Team for People with Learning Disabilities.

Regal House, London Road, Twickenham TW1 3QB

Phone: 020 8487 5315 or 020 8487 5346

Other useful contacts

Other transition information and planning websites

www.macintyrecharity.org

Use the transition link from their home page

www.transitioninfonetwork.org.uk

www.connexions-leics.org/mags/transition.asp

www.valuingpeople.gov.uk

Look at resources: there are transition and person-centred approaches sections there

www.helansandersonassociahtes.co.uk

www.movingonup.info

www.trans-active.org.uk

www.drc-gb.org

Information about disability rights and the Disability Discrimination Act



What did you think of this leaflet?

Do you need more information?

Contact the Public Information Officer on

Phone: 020 8487 5093

Visit us online at www.richmond.gov.uk

Translation advice

If you have difficulty understanding this publication, please visit reception at the address below, where we can arrange a telephone interpreting service.

إذا كانت لديك صعوبة في فهم هذا المنشور، فنرجو زيارة الإستقبال في العنوان المعطى أدناه حيث بإمكاننا أن نرتب لخدمة ترجمة شفوية هاتفية.

Arabic

اگر در فهمیدن این نشریه مشکلی دارید لطفاً به میز پذیرش در آدرس قید شده در زیر مراجعه نمایید تا ترتیب ترجمه تلفنی برایتان فراهم آورده شود:

Farsi

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਪਰਚੇ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਮੁਸ਼ਕਲ ਪੇਸ਼ ਆਉਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਪਤੇ ਉੱਪਰ ਰਿਸੈਪਸ਼ਨ 'ਤੇ ਆਓ ਜਿੱਥੇ ਅਸੀਂ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਤੇ ਗੱਲਬਾਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਇੰਟਰਪ੍ਰਿਟਰ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ।

Punjabi

Please contact us if you need this publication in Braille, large print, on audio tape or in another language.

Phone 020 8891 7500 or Minicom 020 8891 7539