

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

PLANNING FOR YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE



The aim of this leaflet is to explain how young people at school with Statements of Special Educational Needs can plan for their futures, and the help they receive with this.

If your son/daughter has a statement of special educational needs, a review takes place every year to make sure that they are getting the help they need. When your son/daughter reaches year 9 this review will include a **Transition Review**. This means that during the review you and all the people involved will listen to what your son/daughter wants to do in the future and what help they may need.

Who attends a Transition Review?

The headteacher or a designated teacher will arrange the Review and will invite those people who are currently involved with your son / daughter. This will include:

- Your son/daughter
- You
- Key members of teaching staff
- A Children, School and Families representative

The headteacher or designated teacher will also invite any other people who can provide information about the potential needs of the young person:-

- Where there are health issues, the school must seek information and advice from the appropriate health care professionals
- It may also be appropriate to invite foster carers, shared carers and staff supporting the young person in respite units
An Adult Care Services representative should attend if your son/daughter has a severe learning difficulty or physical disability

- The headteacher or designated teacher must invite a Connexions Personal Advisor. Connexions Personal Advisers must attend the year 9 Review, and will attend other important reviews in following years

You can also request that other people are invited by contacting your son/daughter's school.

Preparing for the Transition Review

- You and your son/daughter should be offered preparation for the Transition Review
- You can also have support to take part in the annual review
- Schools will usually help young people think about how they can contribute to their Review
- Other people such as the Connexions Personal Adviser or Social Worker can also help if necessary

What happens in the Transition Review?

- The chairperson will explain the purpose of the meeting and ask people to introduce themselves. The chairperson will make sure that each person explains their relationship with the young person so that you have a clear understanding of everyone's roles and responsibilities. The chairperson will also make sure that parents know about anyone who was invited but was unable to attend
- The Review will help your son/daughter to identify strengths, support needs, goals and aspirations. This will help your son/daughter develop their hopes, plans and dreams. Issues of independence work, skill development, quality of life and health will also be considered
- During the Review your son/daughter, you and professionals will identify tasks which need to be developed to help your son/daughter with transition towards adult life. It will also be agreed who will carry out these actions
- A **Transition Plan** for your son/daughter will be produced

Arrangements for the co-ordination, monitoring and the review of the Transition Plan will be the responsibility of the headteacher or designated senior teacher, together with the Connexions Personal Adviser.

What happens next?

- The minutes of the Transition Review together with a copy of your son/daughter's Transition Plan will be circulated by the headteacher or designated senior teacher to relevant people
- Your son/daughter's Transition Plan will be reviewed at each following annual statement review to ensure that it remains appropriate

To find out more contact:

i Contact your son/daughter's **Connexions Personal Adviser**

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