



Preparing for Adulthood Pathway





Year 9:	13-1	14 Y	ears
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Education Training & Employment	Friendship, Relationships & Community	Developing Independence	Good Health
At this age you should start having conversations about what you want to do in the future for education, training and employment. You must remain in education or training until you are 18 years. If you want to continue your education/training after this, you will need to consider what subjects you need to study and what type of qualifications you will need. You can work with your school/setting to think about how the curriculum will provide you with opportunities to explore work options to gain meaningful employment. Your school/setting may have a careers advisor, or you can find out about independent careers advice here.	Your family, friends and other people in your circle of support are important as you progress into adulthood. You should think about out of school activities that you are part of or would like to be involved with. Your parents/carers may have questions or concerns as you move into adulthood, and they can access information advice and support. You should also think about time that you spend away from your home, this may be through short break. This will help you to build and maintain friendships.	You will have been learning skills for independence throughout your life, but as you become an adult there are more things to consider. You and your family will need to think about how you can develop your independence. This may include: Travel training Money/budgeting Domestic skills If you are planning to attend university, you may want to think now about whether you will attend somewhere close to home or if you would like to move out of area and what this might involve.	Health services change when you become an adult. If you are currently access health services now, you should start to speak with them about how you will be supported in the future. If you have a learning disability, complex mental health needs or you are autistic, you are able to access an Annual Health Check from 14 years. Ready Steady Go is a nationally recognised pathway for supporting young people to move into adult health services. You can look at the 'Getting Ready' questionnaire to help identify where support is needed. Speak to you GP about how they can support you as you move to adulthood.

If you have an EHCP your Annual Reviews will begin to focus on the PFA themes and will ask you think about your future in all four of these areas.

If you have a SEN Support Plan, you can work with your school/setting on how these themes will be considered within the plan.

If you are a Child Looked After or a Child in Need, your Annual Reviews should coincide with these reviews. Your families Social Worker or Early Help worker will be able to support you and your family with how services will change as you reach adulthood and preparing for this.

Year 10: 14-15 Years

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You should continue to explore 'what you are good at and enjoy doing', what is going well and what you want for your future. You can speak with your career's advisor in your school/setting or an external service about your future ambitions. You should develop an education/training and employment plan which identifies aims, goals and outcomes for the future. This may include: Post-16 learning options Visits to other schools/settings Increasing independence skills Ongoing care and support needs You will be able to get support to help you to access work experience and apprenticeships/traineeships.	Think about the important relationships in your life and how you will continue these in the future. Are you going out as often as you would like, if you need support to be able to experience different activities speak you can talk through this with someone you trust. You should also think about time that you spend away from your home, this may be through short break. This will help you to build and maintain friendships. Find out about extra-curricular activities that are available in your school/setting. Your parents/carers may have questions or concerns as you move into adulthood, and they can access information advice and support.	If you are thinking about moving school/setting to carry on your education or training, you will need to consider where this might be. It is important to develop your independent travel especially if this is going to be further away from home. Speak to SEND Services about transport options and independent travel training. Time management will be more important when you move into post 16 education/training and employment. You should discuss with your current school/setting and potential school/settings about how you can be supported with this.	As you get closer to adulthood, you will become more involved in decisions about your health and wellbeing. All health services that are involved with your health and wellbeing should be sharing information. You can look at the 'Steady' part of the Ready Steady Go transition program to help prepare you for making decisions about your health. A transition plan should be made, and you can find a template for this here. There is also a questionnaire that will help your parents/carers identify any support that they need as you move into adult health services. You may already be receiving a Personal Health Budget, and if you wish to continue with this arrangement or would like one in the future (if eligible), you will become responsible for it when you turn 18 years. You should start having conversations now about how you will manage this. It is important that any informal carers are identified and potentially a carers assessment may be required to make sure that they are getting the right support.
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All planning must be person centred, and your views are important. Hopefully you will have a decided what kind of education/training you would like to do when you turn 16. If you are moving school/setting you can speak to them about support that is available in the setting.

If you have an EHCP, a preference for school/setting will be discussed and if you are planning to move, they will need to be consulted so that support can be discussed and planned.

Year 11: 15-16 Years

Education Training & Employment	Friendship, Relationships & Community	Developing Independence	Good Health	
At this point you will need to decide where you will continue your education/ training until you are 18 years. You can ask for support in making this decision, but the final choice is yours. Once the decision has been made and confirmed, you should have a plan for transition to your new school/setting. This should be a multi-agency approach to make sure that all services have the right information. You should review any current work experience and/or plan further opportunities. You should continue to have discussions about your future plans and explore the options available to you when you become an adult. Discussions should include how support within education, training and employment will continue this includes how this support might be funded.	You will need to consider how your current friendships will continue after school ends. You may need support to plan how you will keep in touch with them. If you're not already accessing local activities such as leisure centres, the cinema, libraries and shopping centres you should work with those that support you in how you can begin to or continue to do so in the future. If you are currently accessing a short breaks service, you should speak to your care co-ordinator about whether this will continue after you turn 18.	You will have a good idea of what you want to do in the future by this point, so now is a good time to consider where you will live when you are an adult. You and your parents/carers should have all of the information necessary to make this decision. If you want to continue living at home, you still need to develop your independence so that when you are ready to move you are able to do so You should be travelling independently as much as possible. If you are not able to travel independently, consider support that might be necessary to develop independent travel skills and/or assistance that might be available. You may be eligible for certain benefits. You can have your first benefits check before you turn 16.	At 16 you are entitled to consent or decline treatment that you receive. You may be discharged from certain services, and they should talk to you and your family about this and who will take over responsibility for your health and wellbeing needs. You should be using the Steady or Go parts of the Ready Steady Go transition program. If eligible, you should make sure you attend your Annual Health Check via GP. Some young people may be eligible for continuing care. This will need to be assessed by a care co-ordinator. Your parents/carers may not be allowed to do things like make an appointment for you at your GP's. You should speak to them about the reasonable adjustments that they can put in place to make sure you continue to have your health and wellbeing needs met.	
If you have an EHCP and require high needs funding or a placement in a specialist college, the SEND Panel will meet to decide this.				

If you have an EHCP and require high needs funding or a placement in a specialist college, the SEND Panel will meet to decide this. They must decide this by the 31st of March year 11.

You can get support in whichever school/setting you choose without an EHCP, and they will be able to discuss with you how best to support you.

If you are a Child Looked After, your social worker will speak to you about the support available for Care Leavers.

Year 12: 16-17 Years

If you are going to continue education/ training, then you will need to visit potential settings and speaking with them about what support they can offer you. You may no longer be eligible for transport to and from your school/setting so you will need to consider this when making decisions about continuing your education/training. If you do not have an EHCP or your plan will cease as you no longer require it, but still need support in education you can apply for the Bursary Fund for Vulnerable Adults/ Discretionary money through college to help with education-related costs if you're 16-19 year. If you are planning on attending university then you may be eligible for the Disabled Students Allowance. If you are planning on attending university then you may be eligible for the Disabled Students Allowance. If you are going to continue education/ training, then you will need to visit you need support or are unable to: Access local services - Access local services - Access local	Education Training & Employment	Friendship, Relationships & Community	Developing Independence	Good Health
If you have an EHCP at attend South Tyneside College, South Tyneside Council will now hold your Annual Review meetings.	about what you would like to do when you turn 18. If you are going to continue education/ training, then you will need to visit potential settings and speaking with them about what support they can offer you. You may no longer be eligible for transport to and from your school/setting so you will need to consider this when making decisions about continuing your education/training. If you do not have an EHCP or your plan will cease as you no longer require it, but still need support in education you can apply for the Bursary Fund for Vulnerable Adults/ Discretionary money through college to help with education-related costs if you're 16-19 year. If you are planning on attending university then you may be eligible for the Disabled Students Allowance.	social group making sure you are able to remain in touch with your friends and make arrangements for socialising. If you need support or are unable to: • Access local services • Travel/get out when they choose, either on their own, with friends or with support • Use a telephone, mobile, email, social networking • Public transport, learning to drive etc You should discuss this with your social worker or early help worker.	soon after that you would like to live on your own, or that you are going to move away for studying at University. You will need to find out more about your housing options and the support you can get in maintaining a tenancy and budgeting. If your parents/carers have held Personal Budget for your any of you education, health or care needs previously, you may be able to take control of this your self when you turn 18 so you should be talking about what support you might need to do this. You may also be entitled to some benefits such as Personal Independence Payment or Universal Credit, you can get advice and guidance about money from a range of services that are able to support you to apply and manage you money. If you're not able to travel independently, consider support that might be necessary to develop independent travel skills and/ or assistance that might be available.	for decisions about your health independently but may still require some support. Relevant professionals work together and share information/ understand how to communicate with you. Continue with having your Annual Health Check via GP if you are eligible. Some young people will be eligible for Continuing Health Care. This will involve an assessment. Your care co-ordinator will discuss this with you. For young people that are unable to make decisions about their health needs the Mental Capacity Act (2005) must be considered in relation to the specific decisions included. You can look at the 'Go' or 'Hello' part of the Ready Steady Go transition program to help you identify where support may

If you are not continuing education or training after 18years or you plan to attend university, they will talk to you about Ceasing your EHCP.

If you are continuing your education/training and would like to have a Personal Budget for your EHCP you can discuss this with, SEND Services.

If you are a Child Looked After, you will be assigned a Personal Assistant at 16years who will be able to provide you with support about leaving care.

For some young people they will need continued support through Adult Social Care.

Year 13: 17-18 Years

Education Training & Employment	Friendship, Relationships & Community	Developing Independence	Good Health
For young people that are unable to make decisions about their education/training and employment the Mental Capacity Act (2005) must be considered in relation to the specific decisions included. You should continue to update your Careers plan. You should plan to spend progressively more time in work related learning or employment that you are interested in. You should continue to explore all possible options including supported employment.	You should continue talking about your social group making sure you are able to remain in touch with your friends and make arrangements for socialising. If you need support or are unable to: Access local services Travel/get out when they choose, either on their own, with friends or with support Use a telephone, mobile, email, social networking Public transport, learning to drive etc You should discuss this with your social worker or early help worker to explore possible solutions. If you are eligible for adult respite services a plan will be developed with you to help you move into these services.	If you have decided that you want to live away from your parents/carers or are moving to university you should have all the information that you need regarding housing options and have discussed what is best to meet your needs. You should have a benefits check at 17.5 years to find out about any benefits that you are eligible for if you are leaving education/training. You will need to decide about any personal budgets and how these might be used to personalise your support and who will manage these if you are not able to do so yourself. If you need support with managing your money you should seek advice about appointeeship/deputy. If you are not able to travel independently, think about what support might be necessary to develop independent travel skills and/or assistance that might be available.	You will start to move from children's health services to adults at this point if eligible. If you have previously been under the care of paediatrician, they will have made all the relevant referrals to individual services/consultants that are necessary. If you are currently accessing children's mental health services (CYPS) they will work with you to decide if you need to access adult mental health services. If you need support with your health care, there are a range of services that can support you with having your voice heard. If you are eligible for Continuing Health Care you will have a care co-ordinator that will work with you to manage your health and wellbeing needs.

If you have EHCP and you will not be continuing in education/training, or you are planning to attend university your EHCP will be ceased. There should be a review meeting to discuss this with you and anyone that you would like to attend the meeting with you to discuss what support you need going forward and how this might be provided.

An Adult Social Care assessment may be required to decide if you are eligible.

If you are leaving care, you will have a Personal Assistant that will work with you and support you through the plan that has been made.

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When you finish year 13 you do not need to continue in education or training if you do not want to. If you move into employment either full time or part time you can still get support to meet your needs. You can apply for Access to Work if you have a disability or health condition that makes it hard for you to do parts of your job. If you are continuing in education/training it is important that you are working towards your career goals. You should plan to spend progressively more time in work related learning or employment that you are interested in. You may be eligible to apply Universal Credit at 18 if you decide that you do not want to continue in education/training after 18.	You should continue talking about your social group making sure you are able to remain in touch with your friends and make arrangements for socialising. If you need support or are unable to: • Access local services • Travel/get out when they choose, either on their own, with friends or with support • Use a telephone, mobile, email, social networking • Public transport, learning to drive etc You should discuss this with your social worker or early help worker to explore possible solutions. The move to adult respite services should be completed.	You should continue to explore how you can develop your independence. Explore housing options and make sure that you are getting all of the information you and your family need to make decisions about your future. Personal budgets are a good way to personalise the support you receive in education/health and care for those eligible. You may be eligible for benefits such as Universal Credit if you are leaving education/training so a benefit check should be completed before you leave school/setting. If you are not able to travel independently, think about what support might be necessary to develop independent travel skills and/or assistance that might be available.	Make sure you are still having your Annual Health Check via GP if you are eligible. If you have a long term or complex health needs, you may have a Health Lead who supports you with co-ordinating your care needs. They should be invited to Annual Review meetings. Services should share information and reports with relevant professionals with your consent to make sure that you are getting the support that you need. If you need to visit the hospital, then you can get support whilst you are there. You or someone on behalf of you can complete a care passport for you.

If you have EHCP and you will not be continuing in education/training your EHCP will be ceased. There should be a review meeting to discuss this with you and anyone that you would like to attend the meeting with you to discuss what support you need going forward and how this might be provided.

If you are continuing in education/training your Annual Review should focus on your goals for the future and how any planned study programme will support you to achieve this.

If you are a Care Leaver you can still access the Care Leaver's Local Offer and talk to you PA if you need any additional support.

A lead professional should be provided to support you if you continue to access support services.

19 – 25 Years

Education Training & Employment	Friendship, Relationships & Community	Developing Independence	Good Health
Your education/training will come to an end during this time. It is important that you continue to explore all employment options. You can contact the Job Centre Plus to find out more about supporting young people with SEND, they have Disability Employment Advisors, and you can apply for Access to Work if you have a disability or health condition that makes it hard for you to do parts of your job. If you are continuing your education, you should consider how this is going to help you progress and achieve your future goals.	You should continue talking about your social group making sure you are able to remain in touch with your friends and make arrangements for socialising. If you need support or are unable to: • Access local services • Travel/get out when they choose, either on their own, with friends or with support • Use a telephone, mobile, email, social networking • Public transport, learning to drive etc If you need any advice or support to develop or maintain friendships, you can talk to??? If you or your family need any additional support, you can contact the Let's Talk Team to find out about what is available including Carer's Assessments.	Speak to your lead professional about what will happen when you turn 25 or you no longer require support services. You should develop a plan for when the Preparing for Adulthood pathway is no longer applicable. You will have finished your education/training at some point before turning 25years. Speak about housing options and what/where you want to live in the future and what support will be needed to help you.	Make sure you are still having your Annual Health Check via GP if you are eligible. If you have a long term or complex health needs, you may have a Health Lead who supports you with co-ordinating your care needs. They should be invited to Annual Review meetings. Services should share information and reports with relevant professionals with your consent to make sure that you are getting the support that you need. Annual Health Check via GP if eligible & GP surgery is participating in the scheme Ensure that young person knows how to keep healthy Ensure relevant professionals are in contact with each other and share information (with relevant consents) and understand how best to communicate with the young person. If you need to visit the hospital, then you can get support whilst you are there. You or someone on behalf of you can complete a care passport for you.

Young people with SEND may take longer to achieve outcomes within an EHCP, but there is no automatic entitlement for the plan to remain in place until they are 25 years. The plan should be ceased when all outcomes within the EHCP have been met or you are no longer in formal learning or training.

An exit plan should be developed to make sure that there is support available for the young person and their family if the EHCP is ceased. This should include information about seeking employment, continuing to study in higher education or as an adult and support for health and social care needs.

The Care Leavers Local Offer remains in place until you are 25 years, but if you still need support after this your PA will talk to you about what is available.