

Preparation for Adulthood and transition from Children's Services to Adult Social Care protocol

Cohort: Children allocated to the Children with Disabilities Team



Introduction

The following is an internal document (for teams in West Sussex County Council) that sets out the agreed activities to prepare a young person for adulthood and adult social care support, where that young person is likely to have adult social care support needs due to a life-long condition.

More detailed practice guidance on specific duties and activities is available via the hyperlinks in this timeline. The timeline **is not intended to replace WSCC policy and guidance** but to demonstrate how different activities across directorates interact with each other to support young people.

A protocol / timeline of activity to support young people who do not have an allocated worker from the Children with Disabilities team is available [here](#).

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Year 9 – young person is 14

Expectation of the Young Person / family:

- Young person is being supported to learn new skills and test out new abilities on a path towards increasing independence. Families / carers are considering setting rules; helping the young person develop skills for decision making; identifying opportunities for the young person to practice being independent and taking positive risks.

Expectation of Education (if young person has an Education, Health and Care Plan)	Expectation of Children’s social care (for Children with Disabilities (CWD) team only, including looked-after children) – see CWD 15 -18 Sharepoint site for specific guidance	Expectation of Adult social care (this protocol applies to the Lifelong Services Transitions (LLST) teams only - see LLS Transitions Sharepoint site)	Expectation of commissioning teams	Expectation of health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and colleges are providing students with independent advice / opportunities to make informed decisions about their future, and recording those Preparation for Adulthood (PFA) outcomes in Education Health and Care plans (EHCPs) • SENAT is working with schools to quality assure and support Preparation for Adulthood within EHCPs, which are uploaded to Mosaic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWD workers are attending EHCP reviews, keeping up with children’s progress (including supporting families to help young people increase independence) and identifying which young people will transfer to a 15+ specialist CWD worker. • Pressing issues (concerning preparing for adulthood) are shared with adult social care colleagues via internal Transition Tracking meetings (6 weekly) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LLST managers are attending Transition Tracking meetings (6 weekly) where any pressing issues are flagged by CWD colleagues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSC commissioning are collating data on numbers of young people allocated to CWD workers, what packages of care are in place, and the cost(s) of those care packages. This information is accessed monthly by data teams, who add it to the Transitions dashboard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Continuing Healthcare representative is attending transition tracking meetings to track those with complex health needs

Year 10 – young person is 15

Expectation of the Young Person / family: As year 9

Expectation of Education (if young person has an Education, Health and Care Plan)	Expectation of Children’s social care (CWD teams) – see CWD 15 -18 Sharepoint site for specific guidance	In addition - if a child is looked after	Expectation of Leaving Care team	Expectation of Adult social care (LLST teams)	Expectation of commissioning teams	Expectation of health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools / settings continue to support young people to prepare for adulthood, and are consulting with young people, families, SENAT, social care and education about post-16 plans, with any proposed changes to be written up after the EHCP annual review. SENAT (senior planning coordinators) working with schools/settings to ensure and support PFA, including contributing to plans for young people after Y11 / post-16 (including which children will make a transition and / or require changes in support) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CWD managers allocate YP over 15 to a 15+ specialist worker. Managers are also collating and presenting tricky issues and discussing these with LLST and adult commissioners via internal Transition Tracking meetings. CWD 15+ workers are beginning Preparation for Adulthood planning, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing dedicated information with young people and parents / carers considering Deprivation of Liberty contributing to EHCP reviews, monitoring progress towards outcomes, and supporting families to help YP increase independence. ensuring that My Plan is up to date with all relevant information, diagnoses etc 	<p>CWD workers will support the YP to be involved in their My Plan, which will serve the function of the Pathway Plan from 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaving Care managers are reviewing which YP have met the criteria to be allocated a Personal Advisor (PA), to ensure timely allocation. PA and social worker work together on post-18 housing options, beginning at age 16 via Pathway Planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LLST managers are attending Transition Tracking meetings where any pressing issues are flagged by CWD colleagues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC commissioning – as year 9. Adult commissioners are reviewing data from CSC commissioning (via spreadsheets or the Transitions Dashboard) to identify future service gaps for upcoming cohorts and start any market engagement where substantial advance planning is needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before

Year 11 – young person is 16

Expectation of Education (if young person has an Education, Health and Care Plan)	Expectation of Children’s social care (CWD teams) – see CWD 15 -18 Sharepoint site	In addition - if a child is looked after	Expectation of Leaving Care team	Expectation of Adult social care (LLST teams)	Expectation of commissioning teams	Expectation of health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before – plus: SENAT (senior planning coordinators) are working with schools/settings to ensure and support PFA, including finalising plans for young people after Y11 / post-16 so that YP and families have a confirmed post-16 placement by 31st March 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CWD work includes: Preparation for Adulthood outcomes, contributing to the EHCP process, starting any MCA/DoL work, initiating referrals for adult NHS CHC screening, and referring young people to LLST via Mosaic (including unrestricting any restricted records) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CWD workers are responsible for ensuring that a young person has an up to date My Plan, reflecting the views and wishes of the young person. The My Plan will perform the function of the Pathway Plan for children with disabilities who are looked after and is vital to ensure that the young person has the right support and time to prepare before they turn 18 years of age CWD workers with young people in foster accommodation are considering Staying Put. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaving Care managers are reviewing which YP have met the criteria to be allocated a Personal Advisor (PA), to ensure timely allocation. PA (when allocated) supports social worker with post-18 housing options, beginning at age 16 via Pathway Planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LLST workers are contacting young people referred from CWD to complete an initial contact and confirm consent. If this indicates that a CHC referral (adult) is needed the LLST worker advises CWD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC commissioning – as before, plus: Commissioners are working with placement / contract teams and adult commissioners to consider joint commissioning. Adult commissioning - as before, plus: Adult commissioners are advising social workers on the adult market and care package types available, in order to inform CWD worker decision making re. building a young person’s independent living skills (via transition tracking meetings) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before

Year 12 – young person is 17. If any worker sees a possible safeguarding issue, the 17.5 protocol is followed

Expectation of Education (if young person has an Education, Health and Care Plan)	Expectation of Children’s social care (CWD teams)	In addition - if a child is looked after	Expectation of Leaving Care team	Expectation of Adult social care (LLST teams)	Expectation of commissioning teams	Expectation of health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before – plus: SENAT (senior planning coordinators) are working with schools/settings to ensure and support PFA, including contributing to discussions about plans for young people after Y13 / post-19. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before – plus: CWD workers join a handover discussion with a young person’s named LLST worker, to share additional information (which may not be captured in MyPlan / Initial Contact form) that may help to ensure a smooth transition to adult care. CWD workers ensure that any YP likely to request a residential college placement (if in ongoing education past 18) is flagged as such to LLS Transitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before – plus: SW is ensuring that 18+ accommodation needs, as identified in the My Plan, are shared with housing and with Transition Tracking meeting attendees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before – plus: Leaving Care managers are ensuring that a PA is allocated and that a joint supervision is arranged with the CWD social worker, PA, CWD team manager and Leaving Care team manager – to ensure a good handover. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before – plus: LLST managers allocate a worker for completion of the Care Act Assessment. Workers set up meetings with other involved professionals (children’s worker, Leaving Care personal advisor, occupational therapist, SENAT, health) to gather information in a connected and clear way. Workers discuss timing of the Care Act assessment with the young person, family, children’s worker, SENAT and health – to combine assessments where possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC commissioning – as before Adult commissioning - as before 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before

Year 13 - young person is 18

Expectation of Education (if young person has an Education, Health and Care Plan)	Expectation of Children's social care (CWD teams)	Expectation of Leaving Care team	Expectation of Adult social care (LLST teams)	Expectation of commissioning teams	Expectation of health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before – plus: SENAT (senior planning coordinators) are working with schools/settings to ensure and support PFA, including contributing to discussions about plans for young people after Y13 / post-19 (educational and social care provision) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CWD workers end involvement with a young person on their 18th birthday, when case responsibility transfers to LLST. In case of the adult package not being in place at 18, process is followed to ensure no gap in provision of support - guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Personal Advisor becomes the Allocated worker on Mosaic on a young person's 18th birthday and can be closed to the Child's social worker if relevant steps completed. The Personal Advisor meets with the new adult social worker when requested and works with them to ensure that support is joined up for the young person. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before, plus: LLS Transition workers - in conjunction with LLS Combined Placement and Sourcing Team - are ensuring that an adult care and support package starts on the young person's 18th birthday (except in exceptional circumstances, where a joint process is followed), or on leaving full time education, and this is reviewed within 12 weeks. Where a young person has an EHCP, the LLST worker attends and inputs into the EHCP process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC commissioning – as before Adult commissioning - as before 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before, plus health colleagues ensure that young person receives appropriate transfers of care between child and adult health services.

Y14 and on - Young person is 19 - 25

Expectation of Education (if young person has an Education, Health and Care Plan)	Expectation of Leaving Care team	Expectation of Adult social care (LLST teams)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before – plus: SENAT (senior planning coordinators) are working with schools/settings and adult social care colleagues to ensure and support PFA, including confirming any post-19 placement to young people and their families / carers by 31st March. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal advisor is supporting the young person (if a Former Relevant Child), including visits at least every 8 weeks. Responsibilities include maintaining the Pathway Plan via regular reviews (at least every 6 months), providing assistance with employment, education and training, assistance with accommodation, and help with living costs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LLST workers in conjunction with LLS CPST are ensuring that an adult care and support package starts on the young person’s 18th birthday or on leaving full time education and this is reviewed within 12 weeks. Where a young person has an EHCP, the LLST worker attends and inputs into the EHCP process.