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

Cohort: Children outside of 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 their mental health.

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 for young people known to the Children with Disabilities team is available [here](#)

Document title:	WSCC Preparation for adulthood and transition to adult social care – Children not known to Children with Disabilities cohort
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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 - see TriX for specific guidance	In addition - if a child is looked after - see here for specific guidance	Expectation of Leaving Care team - see here for specific guidance	Expectation of Adult social care	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"> • Heads of Service and Team Managers are aware of children with complex needs which are unlikely to change or fluctuate over time (particularly those with S117 status, those known to IPT and those on the Dynamic Support Register – as captured in the Transitions Dashboard). Managers support workers to consider early referral to the Transitions Panel • Children’s workers are inputting into the EHCP process (where relevant) to ensure that care needs are captured and addressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWCF workers are responsible for coordinating a needs assessment and completing complete a Pathway Plan by 16 years 3 months, or within 13 weeks of being ‘looked after’. • CWCF 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 and social worker work together on post-18 housing options, beginning at age 16 via Pathway Planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult social care representatives are attending Transition Panel meetings, to advise on and consider young people who are brought to the attention of the panel ‘early’ due to complex needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSC commissioning are collating data on numbers of young people in placements, what packages of care are in place, and the cost(s) of those care packages. • 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"> • SPFT are attending monthly Transitions Panel meetings to advise on young people being discussed

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

Expectation of Education	Expectation of Children’s social care - see TriX for specific guidance	If a child is looked after - see here for specific guidance	Expectation of Leaving Care team - see here for specific guidance	Expectation of Adult social care	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: Children’s workers are following the Transitions Panel protocol and referring young people to panel via Mosaic if possible eligible adult social care needs are identified • Referrers will receive email acknowledgement of their referral and a checklist of actions to enable an informed MDT discussion at panel. • Actions agreed at panel will be uploaded to Mosaic. The children’s worker and manager will be notified, and expected to ensure actions are completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As before – plus: CWCF worker is ensuring that they share 18+ accommodation needs, as identified in the Pathway Plan 	<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 CWCF social worker, PA, CWCF team manager and Leaving Care team manager – to ensure a good handover. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As before, plus: Adult social care teams will allocate workers to undertake Care Act Assessments, based on the Panel decision. • 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"> • As before 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As before, plus CAMHS / relevant services begin to consider transition pathway within health services where relevant.

Year 13 – young person is 18.

Expectation of Education	Expectation of Children’s social care - see TriX for specific guidance	If a child is looked after - see here for specific guidance	Expectation of Leaving Care team - see here for specific guidance	Expectation of Adult social care	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"> CSC workers end involvement with a young person on their 18th birthday, when case responsibility transfers to adults. 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"> As before 	<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. Leaving Care workers can access advice on supporting young people’s mental health via WAMHS consultations (arranged through Cara Davies and Marie Bliss) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As before, plus: Adult workers - in conjunction with the 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 adult worker attends and inputs into the EHCP process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPFT are attending monthly Transitions Panel meetings to advise on young people being discussed. Appropriate transfers of care have taken place within health services.