

# Transition

Moving from childrens' services to adult services



## What is Transition?

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Transition is the word used for the time when young people move from childrens' services to adult services. Becoming an adult can be an exciting, but challenging time for some young people and their families. Particularly, if the young person has a long-term medical condition or a disability. The change in services and not-knowing what will happen next can cause young people and their parents to feel frustrated and overwhelmed. This leaflet aims to explain transition and make the process easier for young people and families.

## What do I need to do?

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When a young person turns 14 years old, they or their family can speak to a service that is supporting them. For example, a **school teacher/ lead doctor or nurse** or **community-based therapy service** (if they have one) or **GP surgery**. The service can explain what changes they can expect. There are some useful links to local services at the back of this leaflet that can provide advice and support.

## Who will be involved?

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Any service that is currently involved with the young person's care and support:

- For example, specialist health services (including hospital), education, transport services, social care services, respite services.

## Will the young person's parent/guardian still be able to make decisions for them?



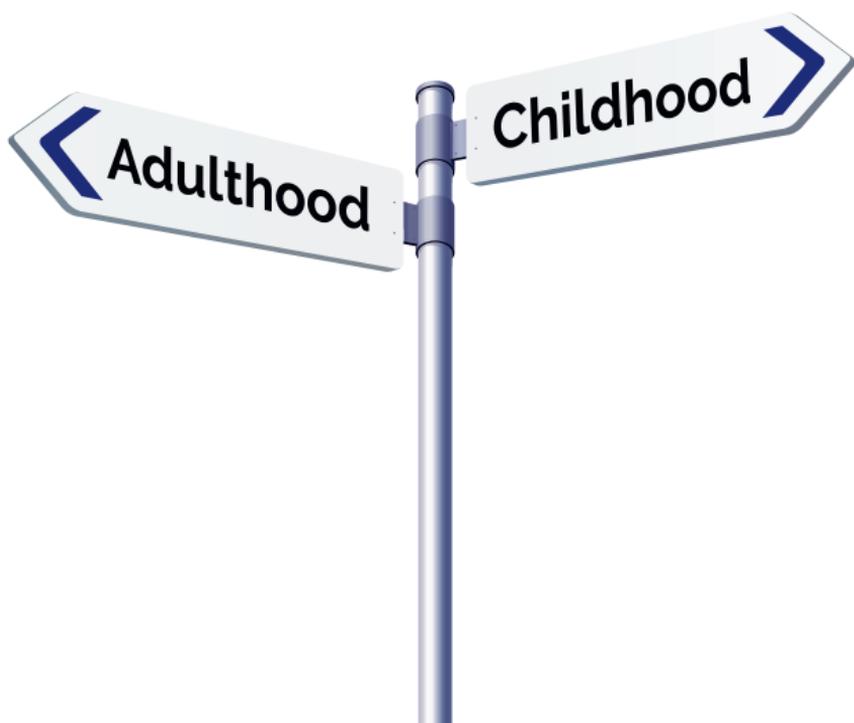
Depending on the needs of the young person, the parent/guardian may want to apply for Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) or a Deputyship.

LPA and Deputyships are legal documents that would allow a parent/guardian to continue to make decisions if the young person legally 'lacks the mental capacity' to make the decision for themselves.

This document is obtained via a solicitor. They will advise the parent/guardian on what would be the appropriate application to make when you contact them.

Funding for LPA and Deputyships maybe covered by Legal Aid

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/legal-aid-agency>



## Special Educational Need services (SEN)

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Many children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) have an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP). An EHCP ensures children and young people progress and receive suitable support from all agencies involved in their care and development. The EHCP is reviewed yearly in an Annual Review and remains with a child/young person throughout their stay in education or training, up until age 25. From age 14, the Annual Review will include conversations about preparing for adulthood and life after school. At this stage young people will receive guidance and support to achieve outcomes such as further education, paid employment, independent living, community inclusion and health and wellbeing.

## Health Services

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Some young people have medical conditions or complex care needs that have been managed by specialist children's doctors and nurses at a hospital like the Royal London or Great Ormond Street. Some young people also have come care packages to support them and their families whilst they are at home.

In these circumstances it is important to speak to your **consultant doctor**, **specialist nurse** or **community nurse** early to make sure they are referred to any adult services in good time before they turn 18 years old.

## Social Care

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As a child you may be receiving services from Children Social Care, who will be responsible for supporting your child up to the age of 18. However, this responsibility changes to Adult Social Care once your child reaches 18. Planning for transition starts in Year 9 at school, when a young person is 13 to 14 years old. The young person and their family should start to prepare for adult life and think about what help may be needed. Further information is available regarding this process via your allocated social worker, or at the Local Offer website (address below)

## What advice and support is available in Tower Hamlets?

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The Local Offer:

<https://www.localoffer.towerhamlets.co.uk/>

Real

<http://www.real.org.uk/>

The Tower Project

<https://www.towerproject.org.uk/>

SEND IASS

[Towerhamlets&city.sendiass@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:Towerhamlets&city.sendiass@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

## Support services

Carers Centre

<https://ccth.org.uk/>

## What do I want to know?

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This section is for you to write down any notes or questions that you might have.