

Preparation for Adulthood

Good practice for assessment conversations with young people approaching adulthood

This document contains both guiding principles and the process to be followed when a young person is likely to have needs for care and support when moving into adulthood.

1

Preparation for adulthood begins. It starts with the young person and their family and is led by the place of current education, CYP Practitioners and health. A request for a transition assessment may have been made by the family or young person.

Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Principle: Working relationships are fundamental both with families and other professionals

SEND & Care Act:

- Practitioners are able to provide young people and families with a good quality offer of universal, preventative services
- Asset based, solution building conversations will happen in every planning session for a young person's preparation for adulthood
- A whole family approach is used in every intervention we make - Such as Transition Planning conversations for Carers and Young Carers
- If the young person is also a Young Carer these needs are covered too

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities:

- Practitioners supporting Children and young people can call the Learning Disability and Transition team to receive information about adult services via the SLCC duty worker.



2

The lead practitioner (CYPs at this stage) works with the family to make indicative eligibility decisions based on the adults service national eligibility framework and shares an indicative Personal Budget summary



Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Discipline and practice:

- Skilful use of authority – giving families choices about how to work with authorities and finding ways that work for them.
- A child's parents and any other people who are important in the child's life should be part of making decisions and plans for what needs to happen

SEND & Care Act:

- Practitioner produces indicative personal budget summary for young people where appropriate and this is shared with everyone involved

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: In our advice and support, we always build on what customers can do themselves, within their own resources, with help from their families and carers and in their communities



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The lead practitioner (CYPs at this stage) produces (or updates) the 'One Page Profile' with the young person. A discussion takes place where the young person decides when they want transition to Adult Services to start (based on their wishes).

Signs of Safety and Wellbeing in practice: We listen to young people and give them the chance to express their wishes and views according to their abilities

SEND & Care Act:

- CYP and ACS Practitioners recognise that young people and families are experts in their own lives, which is critical to planning for their future
- Children, young people and families can come to a decision about the best time for the young person to transfer from children's to adult's services, with Practitioner input
- CYP Practitioners are confident in sharing information with young people and families about the systems used in ACS
- An introduction pack about Adult Services is given to the young person and their family.

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: We are committed to co-production with our customers, and to make best use of technology and innovations.



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The lead practitioner (CYPs) presents eligible young person to area transition tracking meeting or similar space for joint planning with ACS Practitioners



Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Principle: Working relationships are fundamental both with families and other professionals

SEND & Care Act:

- CYP Practitioners are confident in communicating with colleagues in other teams regarding specific young people and their desired outcomes
- Children Services and Adult Services must cooperate for the purposes of transition to adult care and support
- The local authority should ensure all relevant partners are involved in transition planning where they are involved in the person's care and support.

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: We attempt to eliminate duplication, and are happy to share. We look to lead on issues where this will make a positive difference.



5

School, CYP & ACS draw up a plan of when a PATH (planning alternative tomorrows with hope)/or other selected person-centred planning should be carried out within the joint meeting

Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Principle: Landing grand aspirations (a long term ambition and plan) in everyday practice. **Discipline:** An underlying assumption that the assessment is a work in progress rather than a definitive set piece

SEND & Care Act:

- CYP and ACS Practitioners agree how the young person will benefit most from their joint interventions in planning for their future
- CYP and ACS come to an agreement about the best time for the young person to transfer from children's to adult's services recognising family wishes

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: We base support around what customers, their families and friends say would make a positive difference to their lives



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The Lead Practitioner is identified to begin PATH planning (or other selected person-centred tool) with the young person and family, and coordinates the facilitator support. Identify where this will replace a statutory review/non statutory meeting



Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Discipline: Skilful use of authority – in practice giving families choices about how to work with authorities and finding ways that work for them

SEND & Care Act:

- Practitioners are clear on who is leading the work with the young person and who is in their supporting network.
- Practitioners are accountable for both types of role and are able to support each other in them.
- For young people and carers, we should incorporate plans and assessments wherever possible to avoid duplication and disruption for families

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: SLCC operates under the lean principles –customers should whenever possible tell their stories once



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PATH (or other selected person-centred tool) takes place and all potential opportunities are explored as part of this planning

Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Principle: Use a stance of critical inquiry. In practice this means always be prepared to admit you may have it wrong, be interested in what else might be possible.

SEND & Care Act:

- Meaningful progression for young people moving into adulthood is constantly strived for
- Young person or carer must be involved in the assessment and the assessment must also involve anyone else who the young person or carer wants to involve in the assessment.

Supporting Live Connecting Communities: We always build on what customers can do themselves, within their own resources, with help from their families and carers and in their communities.



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Learning from the PATH (or other person-centred planning tool used) informs the Education, Health and Care Plan & ACS Care and Support Plan outcomes



Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Principle: Landing grand aspirations in everyday practice – finding out and documenting practitioner and young person’s descriptions of what on-the-ground good practice looks like is the key to learning

SEND & Care Act:

- Insights from practitioners and operational managers across CYP and ACS are shared with commissioners and there are mechanisms in place to inform commissioning and operational practice. How this works in practice is covered in the developing Moving into Adulthood Commissioning Strategy.
- Where there is no Education, Health and Care Plan (such as for some Care Leavers, some Young Carers, some Young People with additional needs) learning from person-centred planning should still inform support plans that are in place.
- The individual is best placed to judge their own wellbeing

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: Our policies, systems and processes are designed to support frontline practitioners to help our customers, with minimum levels of bureaucracy. We are committed to co-production with our customers



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Children and adults services work together to complete a Short Term Enablement Plan (STEP) where necessary and record an eligibility decision for the young person and the carer. A final personal budget summary is completed and shared.

Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Principle: Working relationships are fundamental both with families and other professionals

SEND & Care Act:

- The statutory assessment reflects information from the person centred planning.
- In practice it is currently thought that it is likely that the young person is ready around age 17years 6 months (as before), but this will be different for some young people and cannot be assumed.

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: We want people to be as independent as possible; this is what most people want and is a reasonable expectation. We provide individual responses, and take a positive approach to appropriate risk taking





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PATH/Planning outcomes and activity should be reviewed at least annually and at points of critical change.

Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Principles:

Working relationships are fundamental both with families and other professionals. Families and front line practitioners are the arbiters of whether practice works. Record what is effective and share your successes with others

Discipline: Assessment is an ongoing process, not a set piece.

SEND & Care Act:

- We recognise that people's circumstances and wishes change over time and therefore we need to review plans to ensure they are still working for the individual
- Insights from practitioners and operational managers across CYP and ACS are shared with commissioners and there are mechanisms in place to inform commissioning and operational practice. How this works in practice is covered in the developing Moving into Adulthood Commissioning Strategy.

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: The review process should be person-centred and outcomes focused, as well as accessible and proportionate to the needs to be met



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Young person (and/or carer if eligible) is now receiving support from adult services and may have continuing involvement from children's services for as long as is needed.

Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Principle: Working relationships are fundamental both with families and other professionals

SEND & Care Act:

- Insights from practitioners and operational managers across CYP and ACS are shared with commissioners and there are mechanisms in place to inform commissioning and operational practice. How this works in practice is covered in the developing 14-25 year olds Commissioning Strategy.
- Children Services and Adult Services must cooperate for the purposes of transition to adult care and support

Supporting Lives Connecting Communities: We are committed to working together and in partnership.

