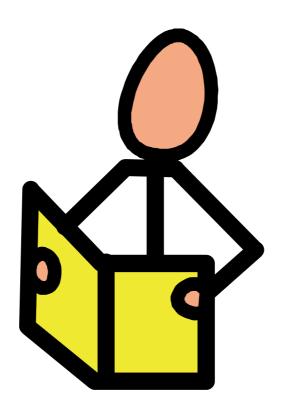
The Big Picture

Your Guide to Transition



for young people aged 13 to 25

updated version



The Big Picture

written by

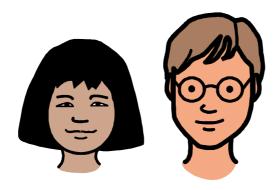
Chris Sholl Fran Dancyger

The Big Picture was produced as part of the Transition Pathway Project.

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Transition means change



As you change from being a teenager to an adult, many things in your life will change.

You will get new rights and choices to make.

This guide tells you what should happen and who should help you in transition.

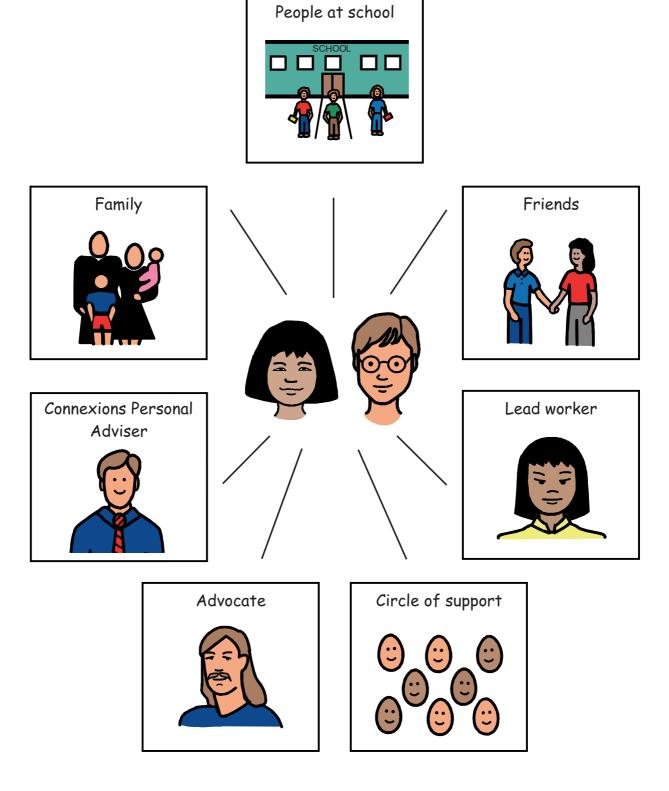
It starts at age 13 and ends at age 25.

The law says it is your right to have a transition plan that you understand.

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These people can help you talk about what is important to you now and in the future.

School



People who work at school may know you well. Talk to them.

Family



Your family can help you plan what you want to do when you leave school. Talk to them.

Friends



Friends at school will also be doing this. Get together talk to them.

Connexions personal adviser



When you are 13 or 14, you should meet a Connexions personal adviser. Their job is to help you plan what you want to do when you leave school. Talk to them.

They will help you until you are 19, or sometimes until you are 25.

Lead worker



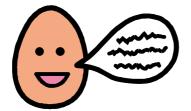
You may have a lead worker from Social Care or Health services. Their job is to help you get any extra support you need.

Talk to them.

Talk to them

Talk about things like

Talk about



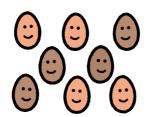
- your hopes and dreams
- what you are good at
- new things you want to try
- what you need help with
- any worries

You may want help telling people what you want. You and your carers can ask for help from an advocate or circle of support



Advocate

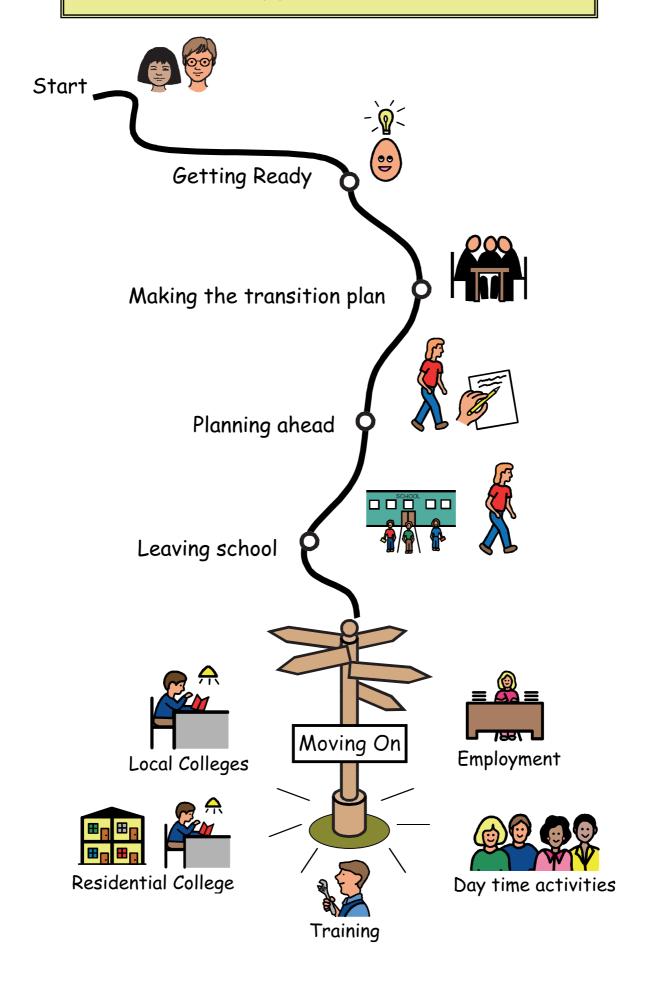
This is someone who gets to know you well. An advocate can help you say what you want, plan for the future and tell people what you want to do.

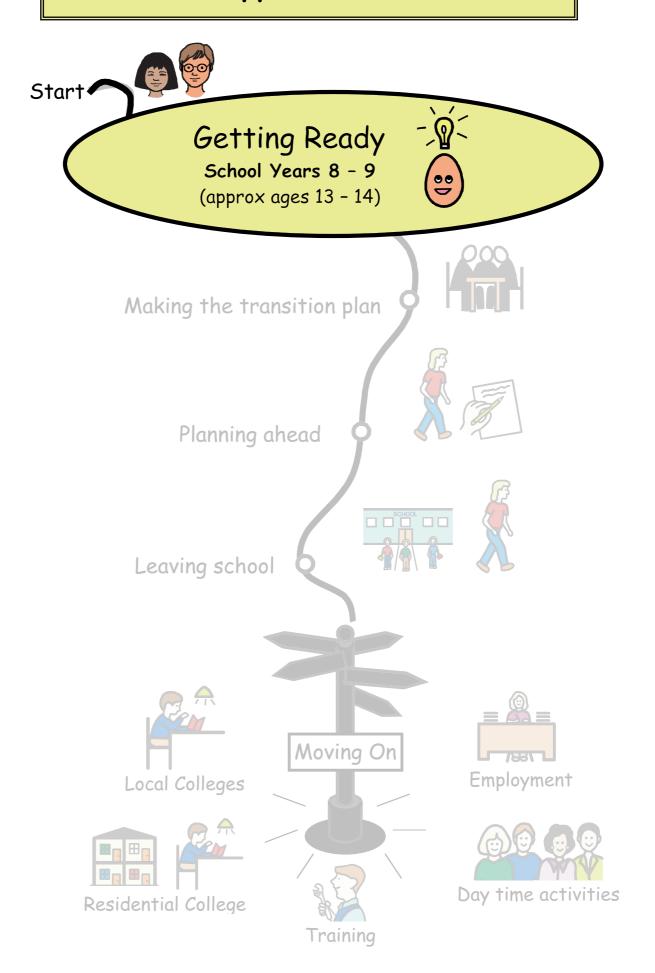


Circle of support

Instead of having 1 advocate, some people have a circle of support. This is a group of people who know you well, maybe friends, family or other people.

A circle of support can help you say what you want, plan for the future, and tell people what you want to do.





Getting Ready

School years 8 and 9 (age 13 - 14)

This is the time at school when you will start thinking more about what you want to do when you leave school.

You should meet your Connexions personal adviser.

If you need extra help you may have a social worker or health worker as well.

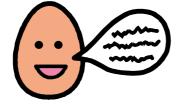
You should know the name and telephone number of your Connexions personal adviser, social worker or health worker.

Getting Ready

School years 8 and 9 (age 13 - 14)

Talk to the people who can help you think about what you want to do now and when you leave school.

Talk about

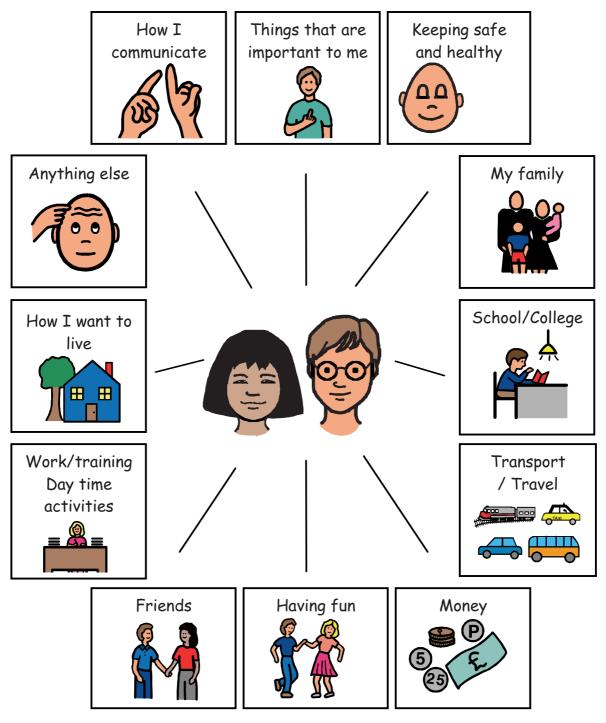


Talk about things like

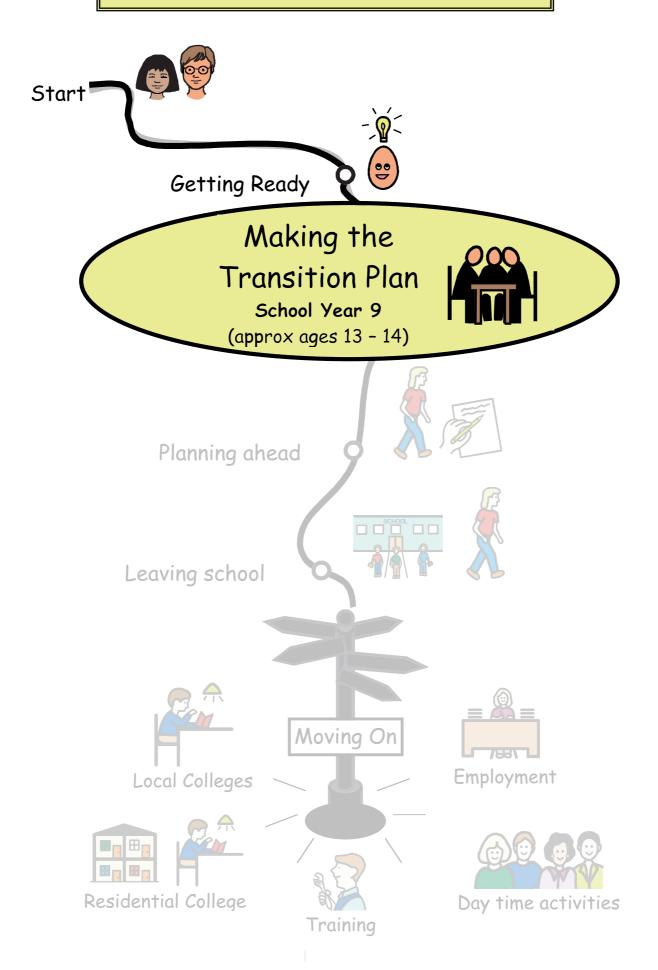
- your hopes and dreams
- what you are good at
- new things you want to try
- what you need help with
- any worries

Getting Ready

These are some things you need to talk about when getting ready to make your Transition Plan



You could make a workbook to help you tell people what is important to you. You could use pictures, words, photos, tapes, whatever you choose.



Making the transition plan

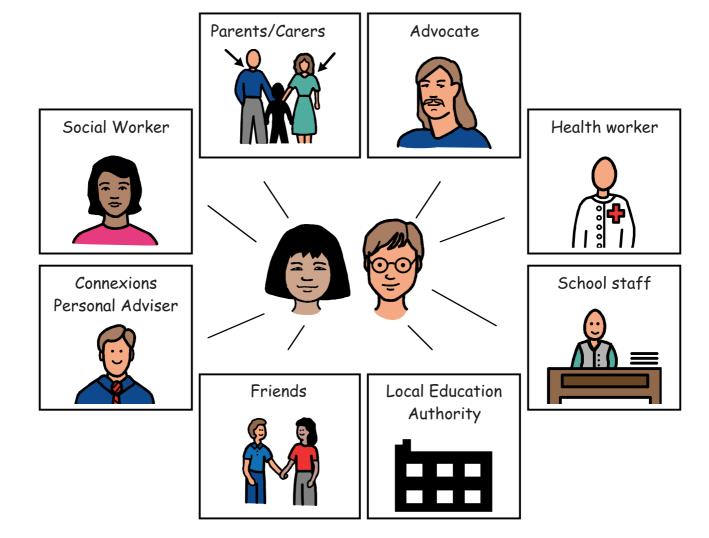
School year 9 (age 14)

If you have a statement of special educational needs, this is reviewed every year. In year 9, there is a special review meeting, this is called a transition review or transition planning meeting.

This is where your transition plan is made.

This is where you can tell everyone about what you want to do. If you have made a workbook you can use this to help you

These people may come to your transition meeting



Making the transition plan

School year 9 (age 14)

Using your ideas and other people's ideas from your transition review meeting, your transition plan is made.

It should include the things you talked about when you were getting ready for your transition meeting.

It should also say

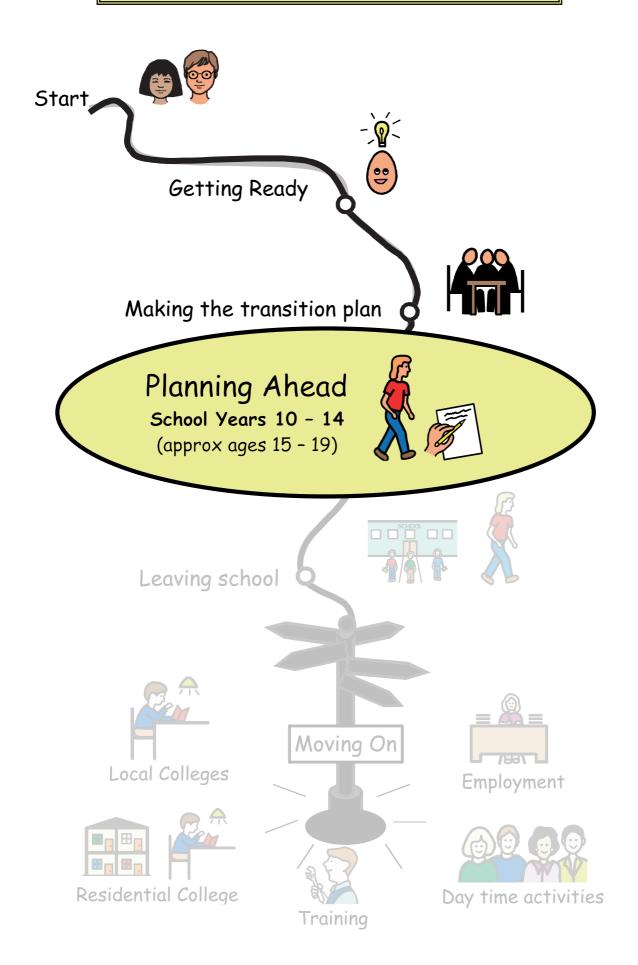
- What needs to happen
- What help you need
- Who will do this
- When this will be done

Your head teacher must see that the transition plan is written, and sent out to everybody.

Your Connexions personal adviser may help with this.

You and your parents or carers should have a copy of your transition plan

Check out that the things in your plan happen



Planning Ahead

School years 10-14 (age 15 - 19)

You should be doing the things in your transition plan. If these things are not happening, ask your Connexions personal adviser or lead worker from social care or health services to help you sort them out.

Every year your head teacher will arrange a review meeting to look at your transition plan and update it.

Before this meeting, think about what is working well and what you want to change in your transition plan.

Make sure that people know what you want. Ask someone to help you.

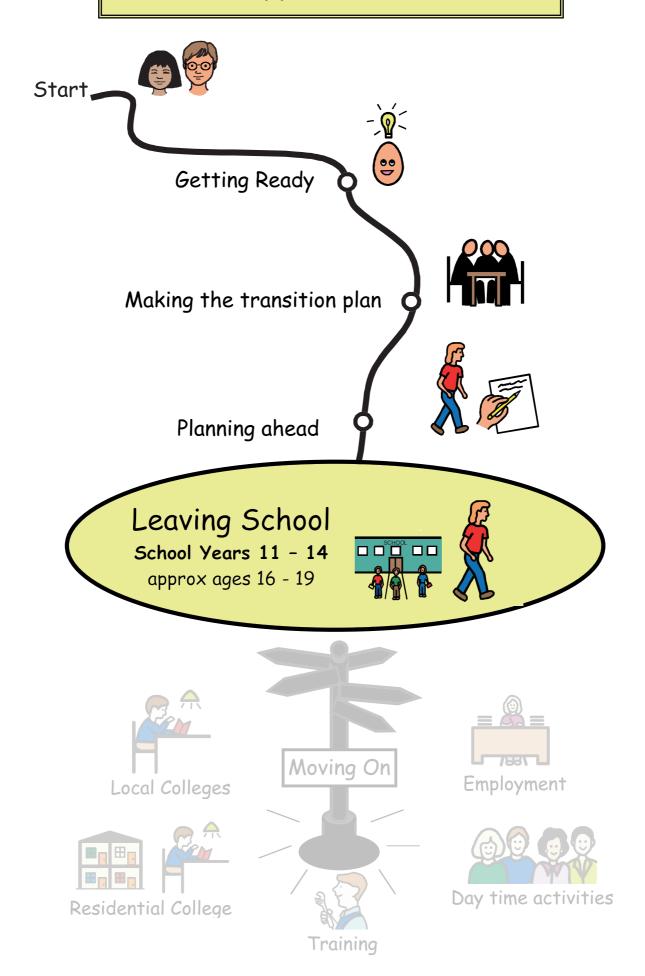
You can add to your workbook if you are making one.

If you need extra help when you leave school, the people who will be giving that help should be invited to your reviews.

They can help you plan for the future.



It is your plan. It should be right for you



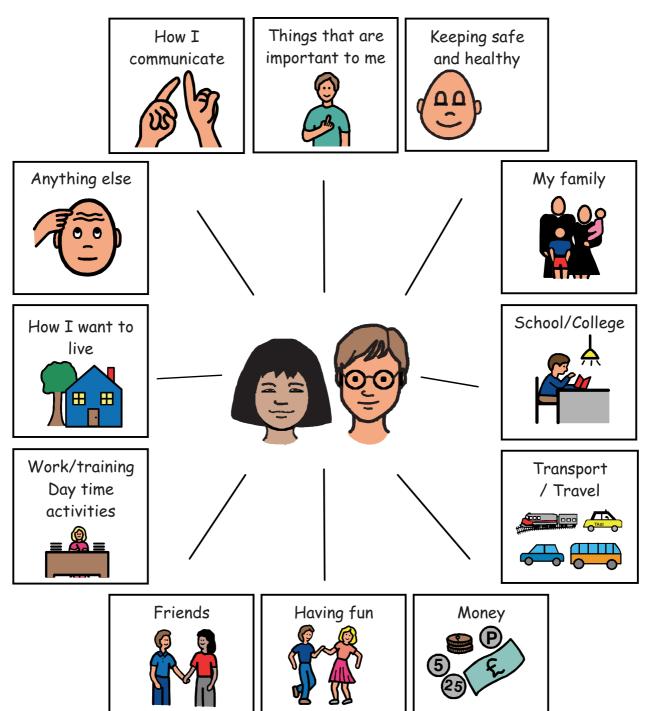
Leaving School

School years 11 - 14 (approx age 16 - 19)

This is your last year at school.

Your transition plan has helped you to plan for the future. It will be reviewed and updated again this year.

Your transition plan should include



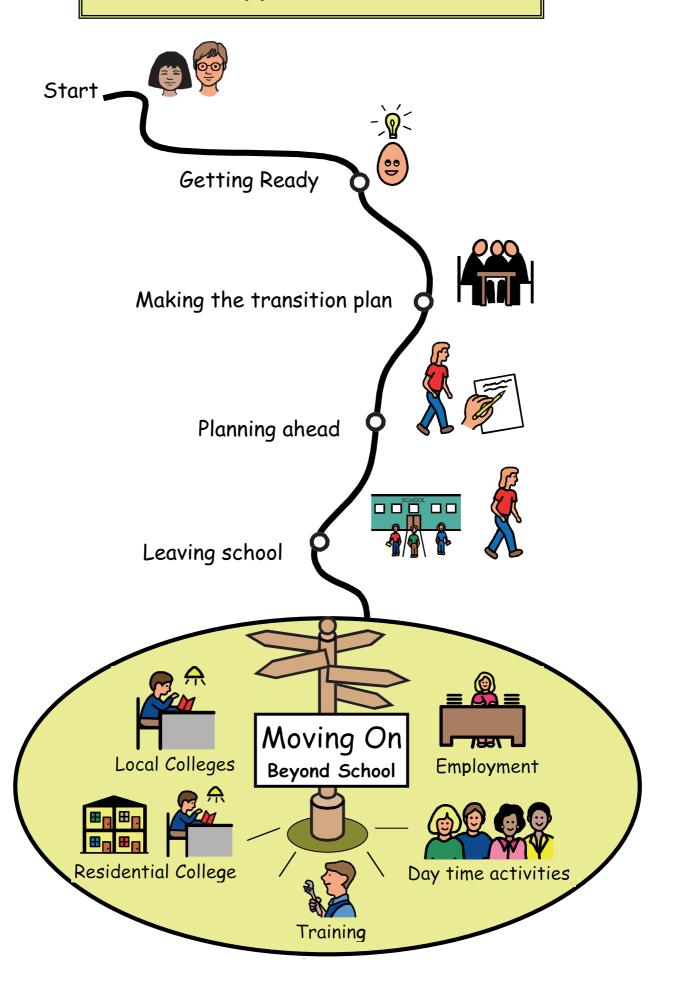
Leaving School

You may also need assessments for help from

Your Connexions personal adviser must do a Connexions Section 140 assessment if you leave school in year 11 (age 16) You may also have a Section 140 assessment if you stay on at school after this. Ask your Connexions personal adviser A social worker will carry out an assessment of your needs if you ask for one. Social Care Your family carers can also have an Services assessment of their needs. A social worker can also tell you about things like Direct Payments Independent Living Fund And other help you may be able to get. Health Services A health worker can help to make sure that you have a Health Action Plan. This should say How you keep healthy What extra help you may need Who can help you

You can use the information in your transition plan to help make these assessments.

You can show your transition plan to the new people you meet when you leave school. It will help them know what is important to you.

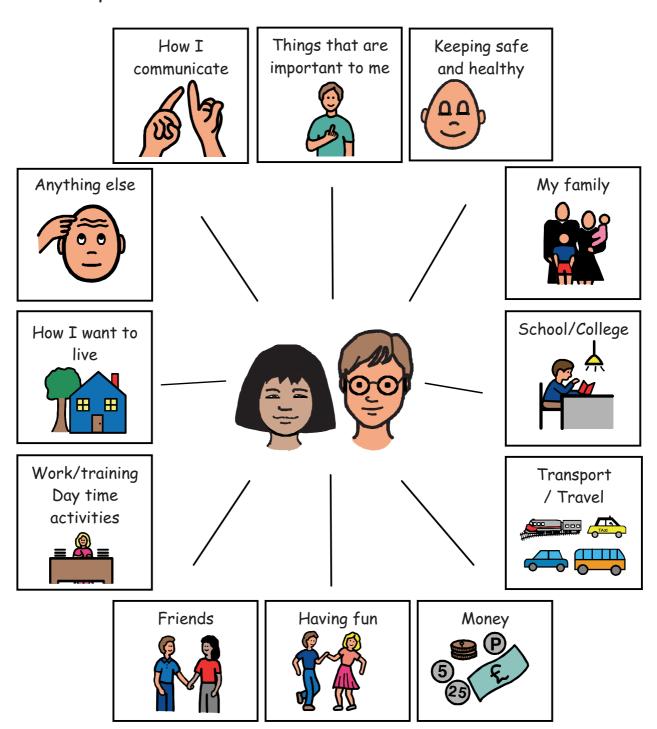


Ages 16 - 19+

When you leave school all the things in your transition plan should be happening.

You will do new things in new places and meet new people.

It is important to think about



These are some of the places you may go

Local college	You may do a college course near to where you live
Residential college	This can also be called a specialist college. It is a college where you can stay during term time
Training provider	A place where you can learn the skills you need to get a job
Day time activity providers	These are ways that you can get support to do different activities. This may be in a special centre or out and about
Employment	A place where you work. You can work full time or part time. You can get support to work, this can be called supported employment.

You may go to one or more of these places either at the same time or at different times.

Wherever you are, you can use your transition plan. It can help you to say what is important to you now and in the future.

There will be meetings to talk about how you are getting on. These may be called reviews.

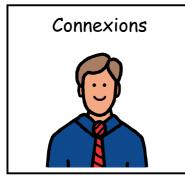
If you need extra help, the people who can give that help should be invited to your meetings.

I want to choose my own support worker

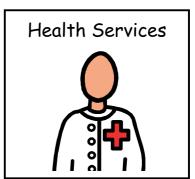


Have you asked about Direct Payments?

You may need assessments for help from



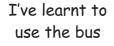




You can use the information in your transition plan to help you make these assessments.



You have already made some choices and changes, you will make many more.

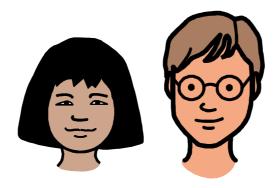




I'm moving into my own flat

Find out where you can get help in the future. Ask your Connexions personal adviser or lead worker.

Your Connexions personal adviser can not help you after you are 25



Good luck for the future

Rebus and PCS symbols used

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The Big Picture was produced as part of the Transition Pathway Project.



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