

Start planning early....

Hillside Specialist School & College

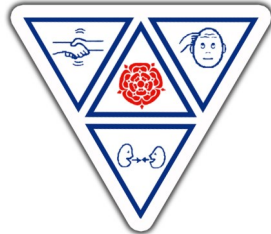


information

TIPS FOR & FROM PARENTS

"I would suggest that if the young person needs to set up their own bank account, it is easier if they do so before their 18th birthday."

Check your will is up to date. Mencap recommend you set up a trust for your disabled child to make sure they are taken care of financially when you're not around.



Direct Payments can form part of a personalised budget. It is money from Social Care which can be used to meet the social and health needs of adults with disabilities.

ADVICE

At 16, the young person becomes an adult for Disability living Allowance purposes. Parent/carers can no longer give consent on their behalf. Prior to the child's 16th birthday you may need to apply for "appointeeship" if the young person cannot handle their own affairs.

What is appointeeship?

At 16 you will need to apply to the Dept of Work and Pensions for appointeeship if the young person has not got the capacity to handle their own affairs. This can be requested directly from the Dept of Work and Pensions if there is a renewal set of forms for DLA then there is a section on the form for this to be requested.

"I didn't think I needed a social worker, but if you feel your child will need support from social care and health as an adult, for example requiring direct payments, you may want to contact First Response for an assessment. Without an adult social worker, and subject to assessment, you will not be able to set up a personalised budget package for adulthood. It can take some time from the first phone call requesting a social worker to setting up the package, so parents may want to think about this now." *(parent of a child in Year 11)*

You will need to re-apply for transport during Year 14 if your son/daughter intends to go onto further education after Year 14.

At 16, young people have the right to make decisions about their support, education and EHC plan including the right to control a personal budget. Your child may still need your support to make decisions on their behalf.

The ability to make decisions is called mental capacity. If your child lacks mental capacity when they become an adult, you can apply to become a deputy. As a deputy, you'll be authorised by the Court of Protection to make decisions on their behalf.

From the age of 18 a young person will be transferred to adult social care services. If your child has complex needs the Transition Service will support them throughout the transition to adult social care so they are prepared before their 18th birthday.