



Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you

**Brighter
Futures for
Children**

Becoming an adult in Reading

Your guide to the process of leaving
children's services and entering adult services

Introduction

This information guide has been designed by Brighter Futures for Children but the wording has been co-produced with all the organisations listed on the back of this guide.

It is to help young people, like you, understand the move from children's services to adult services. This can be called 'transition' and you become an adult when you are 18.



In Reading, children's services, including education and services for young people with special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND), are run by Brighter Futures for Children (BFfC).



BFfC is owned by, but independent of, Reading Borough Council (RBC). The council runs adult services and has a team of people who can help you called 'the Preparing for Adulthood team'.

This guide has been written to help you understand how and when you will move from one service to the other and the milestones you will reach along the way.



Reading Information, Advice & Support Service for SEND (IASS) provides information, advice and support about education, health and social care to children and young people (aged 0-25) who have special educational needs and/or disability. This is a free, confidential and impartial service. It is supported by, but independent of, Brighter Futures for Children.



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www.readingiass.org



Transition Pathway

Here is a guide to show what will happen as each year passes

Age 14



What will happen when you are 14

Brighter Futures for Children (BFfC) will ask you to think about what you want to do when you leave school and what support you may need as an adult.

Brighter Futures for Children



Your parents, teachers, social workers and other people you know will also be involved.



If you need help to explain how you feel, or what you want, you can ask a parent/carer, friend, relative or we can find you an advocate, who is somebody independent to represent your views.



What will happen between age 16- 17

You will be supported jointly by **Brighter Futures for Children** and **Reading Borough Council's** Preparing for Adulthood team.

Your social worker will ask you if they can refer you to **adult social care**.



Age 15



Age 16



What will happen between age 15 and 16

You will be invited to a meeting every year to talk about your Education, Health and Care Plan. This is a chance for you to think about your wishes for the future and what support you need:



Where would you like to live?



What health support will you need?



What are your interests and what do you enjoy doing?



Would you like to go to college or university or start an apprenticeship?



What will happen between age 17 and 18



Someone from the Preparing for Adulthood team will assess your care and support needs with you. This is because different rules cover **adult social care**.

Adult social care will tell you if they will be the right people to support you and how they may be able to help.



You will be told about the people who will provide help and support when you reach 18. This could include an adult social worker or a health worker.

Someone will look at your financial situation.



You will be given information about other local services that can offer help and support.



What will happen when you are 18



Your support from **children's social care** will come to an end. But any new support from **adult social care** should start without a gap.

If you are a care leaver you can still receive support from the BfC Leaving Care team.



You can contact **adult social care** if you need to discuss your care and support needs.

The **adult social care** team can help you organise how to reach your goals by giving you information and advice. They could arrange:



- for you to go to clubs
- for you to have equipment to help you do things for yourself at home, like a special shower or cooking equipment



- supported accommodation when you want to leave home.

The content of this booklet has been co-produced by the following organisations and designed by Brighter Futures for Children. We would particularly like to thank all parent carers and young people who helped with the writing of this guidance.



www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org

www.reading.gov.uk

www.readingmencap.org.uk

www.readingfamiliesforum.co.uk (includes link to Special United)

Brighter Futures for Children is a not-for-profit company, wholly owned by, but independent of, Reading Borough Council. We deliver children's services, early help, education and SEND services in Reading.

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