



Transition Planning - A Guide for Parents & Carers

14+

Transition
What next?

What is Transition?

"Transition" is when a young person begins to think about leaving school to go to college, work, training or other activities. At this time, the young person and their family will have to make decisions about their future.

It can be especially complicated for a young person who has Special Educational Needs (SEN). It is important that all those involved with planning for transition are aware of the principles of the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales.

Regulations state that a transition plan must be prepared for all young people with a statement of SEN during the year 9 annual review. The aim of transition planning is to help the young person prepare for a successful life outside of school.

The SEN Code of Practice says that "The Annual Review in year 9 and any subsequent annual reviews until the young person leaves school must include the drawing up and subsequent review of the transition plan."

The transition plan should draw together information from various people from within and outside of the school who are involved with the young person. There will be a special Annual Review (Transition) in year 9.

Self Advocacy

Some young people can speak for themselves, other young people may be happier speaking to you, their friends or other family members. Quite often, young people find it helpful to speak to someone else who is trained to support them or can speak for them.

This person is sometimes called an "Advocate". In some places, young people can join a self-advocacy group which will help them to feel more confident speaking for themselves. Your local Family Information Service, Social Worker, School and SNAP Cymru can help you to find out more.

Who will be at the transition meeting?

The school will arrange the transition meeting, these usually take place in school. There are a number of people who must be invited to attend the meeting.

- The young person's parent or carer
- A Careers Wales personal advisor
- Relevant teacher
- SENCO
- Local Authority (LA) representative
- Any person that the LA specifies
- The young person
- LA Educational Psychologist
- Health Service Representative
- Other closely involved professionals

If anyone invited cannot attend the meeting, they will be asked to submit a written report.

Who else can help?

Making plans can be easy for some young people. Other young people may find it easier to talk about their future with someone who they may not know, but who knows about transition planning.

Advisors from Careers Wales help every young person with SEN to get ready for the transition process. The School should ensure that Careers Wales is involved with the transition process from as early as year 8.

Helpline

0808 801 0608

www.snapcymru.org

SNAP Cymru, 10 Coopers Yard,
Curran Road, Cardiff CF10 5NB

Tel: 029 2038 4868 Fax: 029 2034 8998



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