

Transition support for parents/carers

We have outlined below, sources of information and support for parents, available from a range of agencies, during their young person's transition years (age 14 – 25).

London Borough of Bexley

Teams will work in a way that supports young people to have a smooth transition into adult life. The Children with Disabilities Team can work with young people up to the age of 18.

If you have a social worker in this team, they will talk to you about how plans will be made at the age of 18, and what to expect when assessments are completed under adult criteria for receiving care and support.

The Preparing for Adulthood Team will work with people over 18 and in partnership will devise a social care pathway. They will generally connect with families before they are 18, as they move through the transition process.

There are a number of people involved with the Transition Review Meeting – please see below how they work together through the process:

-
- **SEN Case Officer** – co-ordinates the statutory needs assessment and works with educational settings to ensure that the necessary resources are in place to meet a child/young person's needs. SEN Case Officer's become involved if a change of placement is requested or if amendments need to be made to the EHCP.
 - **SENCo** – co-ordinates the support a child/young person receives in school including any request for assessments and review of EHCPs. They will be responsible for organising the Transition Review meeting and inviting all those who may need to attend. They will chair the Transition Review meeting.
 - **Class Teacher** – should attend the Transition Review meeting. They will have provided a report in advance of the meeting outlining your child/young person's current performance levels. They will have worked with your child/young person to enable them to contribute to the meeting around their needs and aspirations.
 - **Head Teacher** – whilst the Head Teacher retains overall responsibility for your child/young person's progress and support. They usually delegate responsibility for the Transition Review to the SENCo.
 - **Transition Team Representative** – will often attend, to understand the needs of young people coming through the transition process. This enables the adult teams to adequately prepare for the future.
 - See 'Who is involved with the Transition Review Meeting' in section 8 for other roles.
-

What happens if my child goes to school outside Bexley Borough?

The school will plan the transition review in the same way as Bexley and should invite SEN, health and transition workers to the meeting and ask them, where relevant, to provide information to support the review.

Your SEN Case Officer will liaise with the educational setting and depending on the child's needs and the transition arrangements already in place they may attend the Transition Review meeting.

If your child has health services at school outside Bexley, contact local health services to let them know your son or daughter is coming back to Bexley and seek advice on follow up.

The specialist careers officer will be able to provide information on local college and supported work choices. Out of borough settings may have their own careers advice service and you should ask them about the careers advice services they offer.

A copy of the transition plan will be requested by your case officer, to ensure that key actions and responsibilities for Bexley are carried out.

OXLEAS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Community Adult Learning Disability Team - Bexley

This team has been created to identify and understand the needs of young people with a learning disability before they are discharged from children's services. The ultimate aim is to ensure eligible young people and their families receive timely and appropriate levels of support from the Adult Learning Disability Team and/or their local GP.

All young people with a learning disability (14+) are encouraged to register with their local GP with a view to receiving an annual health check as per NHS England guidance:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/learning-disabilities/improving-health/annual-health-checks/>

The team are located at

Queen Mary's Hospital,
Frognal Ave,
Sidcup,
DA14 6LT

Tel: 020 8269 3300

Website: <https://oxleas.nhs.uk/services/service/community-adult-learning-disability-team-bexley-107/>

Continuing Health Care (CHC)

NHS Continuing Healthcare is care arranged and funded by the NHS for people with complex and on-going health needs due to disability or illness. The Department of Health has a patient information leaflet:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-continuing-healthcare-and-nhs-funded-nursing-care-public-information-leaflet/public-information-leaflet-nhs-continuing-healthcare-and-nhs-funded-nursing-care--2>

Community health services for adults

A range of health services including health checks and mental health services, can be found at the GP practice / doctors for young adults. Check the GP website for services or ask at reception.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) – this service will help if you are having a problem negotiating your way through OXLEAS. They should be able to advise you regarding referral processes etc.

Telephone number: 0800 917 7159

Email: oxl-tr.pals@nhs.net

Website: <https://oxleas.nhs.uk/PALS/>

Bexley Voice

Parents/carers of a young person with an EHCP, or who have SEN support, will be given the opportunity to attend workshops on Preparing for Adulthood and related topics. Details of these workshops can be found on our website: <https://www.bexleyvoice.org.uk/>

The Bexley Local Offer

There is a 'Preparing for Adulthood' section on Bexley's Local Offer. The Local Offer provides information on what services children, young people and their families can expect from a range of local agencies and other services. This includes education, health, social care and voluntary sector as well as things like accessible days out. The website is: <https://www.bexleylocaloffer.uk/Services/category/272>

Independent Advice and Support Service (IASS)

Provide advice on all areas of Education and Health around Transition. They have a help line or can be contacted by email for advice. They are also able to attend meetings with parents if that is needed.

Bexley IASS will provide independent support to young people aged 16yrs and over.

For more information:

Email: bexleyIASS@bexley.gov.uk

Telephone: 020-3045-5976

Website: <https://www.bexleyiass.co.uk/>

Bexley Information, Advice and Support
London Borough of Bexley
2 Watling Street
Bexleyheath, DA6 7AT

Bexley MENCAP

Provide support to parent/carers in a number of ways:

- advice on benefits and help completing application forms
- representing clients at benefit appeals and tribunals
- providing information on wills and discretionary trust funds
- providing up to date information on facilities and services within the Borough
- supporting carers at interviews, hospital appointments and meetings
- liaising with organisations or professionals on behalf of carers and families
- emotional support and a 'listening ear'

Email: office@bexleymencap.org.uk

Telephone: 020 8303 6336

19 Church Road,
Bexleyheath,
DA7 4DD

Website: <https://www.bexleymencap.org.uk>

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

Provide advice and support with Benefits Claims that may change during the Transition years.

Telephone: 08082 505 709

Mediation Service – (in Bexley is provided by Kids)

Independent, confidential service to find a solution where there is disagreement.

Email: senmediation@kids.org.uk

Telephone: 03330 062835

Website: <https://www.kids.org.uk/contact/>

Inspire Community Trust

Provide support to adults and families regarding:

- Managing Direct Payments and Personal Budgets
- Special equipment in Bexley

Email: enquiry@inspiremedicare.org

Telephone: 01322 520560

130-136 Maidstone Road
Sidcup
DA14 5HS

Personal Budgets

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a number of duties in relation to Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans.

A young person can request a personal budget which can include elements of education, health or care provision.

A leaflet explaining Personal Budgets in Bexley can be found on the Bexley Local Offer, the web address can be found above and in the Other Information Section of this planner.

Specialist Equipment

Inspire are also able to advise and support on equipment your young person may need. They have a vast warehouse where it is possible to see equipment and find out how it works.

National Support Groups

The National Autistic Society (NAS)

The National Autistic Society have a lot of information relating to the transition to adulthood including on Further Education, Employment, Finance and Benefits and Social Care.

Email: nas@nas.org.uk

Telephone: 020 7833 2299

National Autistic Society
2nd Floor
Weston House
42 Curtain Road

London
EC2A 3NH

Young Minds

Offer a parent helpline and confidential support to any adult worried about the emotional, behavioural or mental health of a child or young person up to 25 years.

Telephone: 0808 802 5544

Website: <https://youngminds.org.uk/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline-and-webchat/#ParentsHelpline>

Please see the Further Information section for other national support groups for specific needs.