

CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

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for children and young people in Croydon

Transition to Adult Social Care - Eligibility Criteria 18-25

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Delivering for Croydon

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Transition to Adults Social Care - Eligibility Criteria 18-25

When a young person with Special Educational Needs/ Disabilities reaches 18 years of age, they and/or their carers may become eligible for support from adult care services. This is regardless of whether they have an Education Health and Care plan or already have been receiving care from Children Social Care. The local authority must carry out an adult care transition assessment where:

- There is significant benefit to a young person or their carer in doing so
- The young person is likely to have needs for care or support after turning 18 years of age

Transition assessments must take place at the right time for the individual:

- There is no set age for when young people reach this point, therefore the transition assessment should take place when it is of 'significant benefit' to them
- This is regardless of whether the young person or carer is currently receiving any services

The local authority will consider an individual's circumstances when deciding whether to assess them.

For more information on transition please see [preparing for adulthood](#)

In deciding whether a young person or carer is eligible for adult care services, local authorities consider if the young person is unable to achieve one or more of the following:

- Basic care activities: these are activities that the person carries out as part of normal daily life, including eating and drinking, maintaining personal hygiene, and getting around the home.
- Maintain their family or other significant personal relationships, which if not maintained would have a significant impact on the young person's wellbeing.
- Engage in work, training, education, or volunteering
- Make use of necessary facilities or services in the local community; or to engage in recreational activities.
- To carry out any caring responsibilities the carer has for a child.

When considering if a young person is 'unable' to achieve these outcomes, local authorities will look at circumstances where the young person:

- Is unable to achieve the outcomes without assistance
- Is able to achieve the outcome without assistance but doing so causes the young person significant pain, distress or anxiety.
- Is able to achieve the outcomes without assistance but doing so endangers or is likely to endanger the health or safety of the young person, or others.

For more information on how Croydon will determine if a young person is eligible for adult services see [here](#)

Carers Advice and Support

We recognise the huge contribution that carers make. Thousands of Croydon residents get the care and support they need from carers so they can continue to be well and live independently.

If you are a carer you may need support to continue helping your loved one with their care and support. We can assist you if you meet the criteria set by the government in The Care Act 2014.

For more information on this criteria, see the [carers advice and support](#) section.

Support for young people transitioning between Children's Social Care and Adults Social Care

Young people who have been accessing support from Croydon's Children's Services may at some point need to transfer to Adult Services. This usually happens around the time of their 18th or 25th birthday.

Under no circumstances should young people find themselves suddenly without support or care as they make the transition to adult services. Transition to adult social care for those with EHC plans who satisfy the Care Act eligibility criteria should begin at an appropriate annual review, in many cases this will take place over several months or years.

Under the Care Act 2014 local authorities must continue to provide a young person with children's services after they have reached 18 years old, until they have decided whether it is appropriate to transfer the young person to adult services. This is to ensure that there is no gap in the care and support that the young person is receiving. In deciding whether it is appropriate to transfer the young person to adult services, following the transition assessment, the local authority will decide that the young person:

- Does not have needs for adult care and support, or
- Does have such needs and begins to meet some or all of them, or
- Does have such needs but decides it is not going to meet them (either because the needs are not eligible or because the needs are already being met).

The [Transitions Team](#) are also available to help young people aged 14 to 25 years old with disabilities to increase their independence and help them plan for the future.

The Care Act 2014

The Care Act outlines the way in which local authorities should carry out carer's assessments and needs assessments; how local authorities should determine who is

eligible for support; the new obligations on local authorities; and how local authorities should charge for both residential care and community care.

The Care Act is mainly for adults in need of care and support, and their adult carers. There are some provisions for the transition of children in need of care and support, parent carers of children in need of care and support, and young carers into Adult Services. However, the main provisions for these groups (before transition) are in the Children and Families Act 2014.

For further information, please see the [Care Act 2014](#)

Who are we able to support?

We would like to support everyone but unfortunately, we are unable to as we have limited money to assist and a lot of people ask us for help. There are a lot of services that offer advice and support in your local community. These services may help with what you need. [Equipment](#) to help you at home and in the community may also help.

Only a few people need or qualify for support from Adult Social Care, so it is important to think about resources available to you in your local and wider community. We use criteria set by the government to tell us who we can support.

We can only assist you if you are entitled to support under the law (the Care Act 2014). For more information, see the decisions on your long-term care and support section below. We will complete a needs assessment with you to find out if we can support you.

You will probably need to contribute towards the cost of your care even you are eligible for support from us. You will need to pay for your own care costs in full if you own capital more than £23,250. For more information see our [paying for your care](#) page. We will tell you about resources in your community and equipment and gadgets before considering support from us.

Adult Social Care cannot help with housing or benefits e.g. job seekers allowance related issues. If you would like help with a housing issue please go to the [housing](#) section. If you would like help with benefits please go to [benefits](#) section.

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