

## INTRODUCING PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD - YEAR 6

### What happens in Year 6?

- Following the Year 6 annual review, Education, Health and Care Plans will always be amended in preparation for a child moving onto their next phase of education (e.g. junior to secondary), subject to the EHC Plan remaining appropriate, which will be discussed at the annual review meeting.
- When amending an EHC Plan from Year 6 onwards, outcomes in the plan will now focus on the four Preparing for Adulthood areas (described below).

### What are the Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) Outcomes?

- The four PfA areas are:
  - **Higher education and/or employment** (exploring different employment options, such as support for becoming self-employed and help from supported employment agencies)
  - **Independent Living** (children and young people having choice, freedom and control over their lives, their support, and their accommodation and living arrangements, including supported living)
  - **Participation in Society** (having friends and supportive relationships, and participating in and contributing to the local community)
  - **Health** (Being as healthy as possible in adult life)

### Why is it important to be considering the PfA outcomes?

- The Children and Families Act 2014 introduced a new SEND system. At the heart of these changes is a commitment to ensuring that young people achieve better outcomes.
- From year 9 onwards, those supporting young people are required to focus on ordinary life outcomes such as paid employment; independent living (choice and control over your life and support, and good housing options); community participation (friends, relationships



and community inclusion); and health and wellbeing. The Code of Practices encourages Local Authorities to start to plan early for children. In Portsmouth, this will start from Year 6.

### Visiting schools / education placements

- It is strongly recommended that you visit any new school / education placements before you express your preference. It is suggested that you speak with the Special Needs Co-ordinator (or the person who performs that role) of that establishment to discuss your child's needs and ideally take a copy of the draft EHC Plan with you.
- The Portsmouth SEND Information, Advice and Support Service may be able to support you with visits to schools.

### What do you need to do now?

- You now have until the date detailed in the accompanying letter to:
  - Indicate your preferred school placement for Year 7 (if your child attends a school that they can continue to attend in Year 7, then it is assumed they will remain in this placement, unless discussed in the Year 6 Annual Review).
- Prepare for the Annual Review meeting that should take place in the Autumn term of Year 6. You may wish to provide written views for the review, speak to the Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) at your child's current school for a form or you can download a WORD version from the Portsmouth Local Offer website ([www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org))
- If you have any concerns, speak to the SENCO at your child's current school or you may also wish to contact Portsmouth SEND Information, Advice and Support who can provide free, independent and impartial support for parents, carers and young people (see below for contact details).

### What will happen next?

- The SENCO will invite you to the Annual Review meeting during the Autumn term.



- Following receipt of the Annual Review report, the SEN Team will then amend your child's Education, Health and Care Plan and an Amendment Notice will be sent to you for your comments and to confirm your school preference for Year 7.

### Useful contacts:

- Council for Disabled Children: [www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk](http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk)
- Portsmouth SEND Information, Advice and Support - free, independent and impartial support for parents, carers and young people: [www.portsmouthsendiass.info](http://www.portsmouthsendiass.info)
- Preparing for Adulthood: [www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk](http://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk)
- Portsmouth Local Offer: [www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org.uk)
- Portsmouth City Council - Inclusion Service, SEN Team: 02392 841238.

