

Transition Plan

In line with the new Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2014, all Local Authorities are required to publish a Transition Plan as of 1st September 2014. This document has been created in order to explain how Bracknell Forest Council intends to convert current SEN statements into Education Health Care Plans as of September 2014. It will also cover how young people currently receiving support in Further Education or training via a Learning Disability Assessment (LDA), will be supported under the new system.

When should I expect a current statement to be converted?

The Department of Education has issued documentation that identifies when current statements should be converted into an Education, Health, Care Plan. You will be able to find further information on this by visiting www.gov.uk. All current statements must have undergone a conversion to a Plan by 1st April 2018.

In order to achieve this, Bracknell Forest Council will be implementing a staged approach outlined in the table below:

Table 1 : Table Illustrating Number of Statements to be Converted Per Year Group

Key Stage	Sept 2014 Yr. Grp	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017- April 18
Early Years	-1				
Foundation	0	18	1		
KS1	1				
	2	31*	20*		
KS2	3	37			
	4				
	5				
KS3	6		50	30	
	7				
	8			43	
KS4	9	66	59	56	
	10				
	11	71**	61***		
KS5 / FE	12				
	13		82***		
	14	24*			
	15			29	
	16				
		247	273	158	0
				Total	678

Important table notes:

* EHCPs must be finalised by 15th February in the calendar year for any child transferring from infant to juniors

** EHCPs must be finalised by 31st May 2015 for young people transferring from secondary school into Further Education or training on 1st September 2015;

*** EHCPs must be finalised by 31st March in the calendar year for any young person transferring into Further Education or training in the following September.

The above table also demonstrates the order in which children and young people with statements of SEN in Bracknell Forest will be transferred to the new system. The authority has adopted a Year Group approach, whereby specific year groups will be focussed upon during each of the following four academic years. This approach has been taken to ensure effective use of authority resources when converting statements to plans, in order to meet statutory timescales presented by the Department for Education.

In order to not overwhelm the new system, in 2014/15 the Authority has made a decision to follow Government guidelines and defer that year's Year 6 statements until 2016/17. This will not disadvantage young people in that year group in any way, but will allow the Authority to organise its resources appropriately to ensure high standards of service are maintained for the community. The Authority will however take into account the wishes of families that would be affected by this decision and make arrangements as necessary to ensure a Transfer Review is undertaken within 2014/15 if requested to do so, rather than the traditional Annual Review planned.

**Table 2 : Table to illustrate number of Young People
Currently receiving support
From an LDA**

Yr. Group	Number of LDAs in place
13	29
14	25
15	26
16	21
17	9
18	1

Table 2 illustrates the number of young people who are currently receiving support in Further Education or training under an LDA within Bracknell Forest. Young people who are likely to finish their learning before September 2016 will not require their current LDA to be transferred on to a Plan, but can request to be assessed for a Plan nonetheless. Young people that the Authority can predict will remain in learning after September 2016 will have arrangements made for their LDA to be transferred to a Plan before September 2016.

What happens if I am currently accessing learning with a Learning Disability Assessment?

Until 1st September 2016, Local Authorities must continue to have regard to the current LDA in relation to young people who receive support in Further Education or training. The Authority must make arrangements to transfer any current Learning Disability Assessments (LDAs) on to an EHCP if requested by a young person to do so. If you wish to have your LDA converted on to an EHCP, then this shall be considered as a new request for an EHCP. Where necessary, a full assessment must be carried out and an EHCP drawn-up in accordance to the new 0-25 SEN and Disability Code of Practice. This means that a request from a young person should result in an EHCP being drawn up, where one is required, within 20 weeks of making the request.

Where a young person is aged over 18, the Authority must consider whether the young person requires additional time to subject the relevant evidence to support the request being made. In these situations, it will be appropriate for the young person to gain advice from their educational establishment, or if not yet registered at an educational establishment, then to discuss the request with Bracknell Forest's Post-16 EHCP Assessment Coordinator.

What is a Transfer Review?

To transfer a child or young person's statement onto a new Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), a Transfer Review must be undertaken by the Authority in order to ensure that all relevant information is available. For children and young people who need an EHCP, the transfer review will allow for outcomes to be developed for inclusion in their EHCP along with provision identified to support the child/ young person to achieve those outcomes. The Transfer Review will replace the Annual Review that would otherwise have gone ahead within the academic year identified in *table 1* above. The Transfer Review will only happen once, and any future reviews will become an Annual Review of the EHCP until it is no longer necessary to be reviewed.

Will I be informed when a Transfer Review is taking place?

To initiate a Transfer Review, parents, the young person and professionals will be contacted by either the Local Authority or the placement school being attended at beginning of the academic term that the Annual Review would have normally taken place. This will allow parents and professionals time to prepare for the Transition Review being held later that term.

Currently, Bracknell Forest plan to have all current statements transferred over to EHCPs by the end of 2016-17 academic year. This is two terms earlier than the time limit currently set out by the Government, as the Authority wishes to ensure all children and young people within our community are able to benefit from the new system as soon as possible. If however the Authority intends to hold any Transfer Reviews between September 2017 and April 2018, then parents and young people must be notified of this by 1st October 2017.

Where can I find independent SEN information regarding these changes?

The Authority has placed all SEN information into one helpful place for all parents, professionals and young people to access. All information is now available online on the Authority's Local Offer, which can be found at <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/senlocaloffer> . This will list all independent support groups as well as information regarding mediation services available for dispute resolution. As well as this, the Government have many published information guides available at www.gov.uk.