



## Transitions (Young Carer’s) Assessments – Checklist

This checklist provides an overview of the requirements for Transitions Assessments, as set out in the Care Act 2014 and the Care and Support statutory guidance

Requirement/Principle	Source
Children and adult services must cooperate for the purposes of transition to adult care and support.	Paragraph 16.42 Care and Support statutory guidance
Local authorities should have a clear understanding of their responsibilities, including funding arrangements, for young carers who are moving from children’s to adult services.	Paragraph 16.43 Care and Support statutory guidance
Local authorities must co-operate with relevant external agencies including local GP practices, housing providers and educational institutions. This duty is reciprocal.	Paragraph 16.44 Care and Support statutory guidance
The local authority may combine a transition assessment with any other assessment it is carrying out (see examples in para. 16.28), or it may carry out assessments jointly with, or on behalf of, another body.	Paragraph 16.48 Care and Support statutory guidance
If it appears to a local authority that a young carer is likely to have needs for support after turning 18, the authority must assess whether the young carer has needs for support (and if so what those needs are), and whether the young carer is likely to have needs for support after becoming 18 (and, if so, what those needs are likely to be).	S63(1) Care Act 2014
“Likely to have needs” means they have any likely appearance of any need for care and support as an adult – not just those needs that will be deemed eligible under the adult statute. It is highly likely that young carers who are in receipt of children’s services would be ‘likely to have needs’ in this context, and local authorities should therefore carry out a transition assessment for those who are receiving children’s services as they approach adulthood	Paragraph 16.8 Care and Support statutory guidance
The wellbeing of the young carer must be taken into account so that assessment and planning is based around the individual needs, wishes, and outcomes which matter to that person	Paragraph 16.3 Care and Support statutory guidance
Transitions assessments must consider how to support young carers to prepare for adulthood and how to raise and fulfil their aspirations.	Paragraph 16.23 Care and Support Statutory Guidance

Requirement/Principle	Source
Transition assessments will allow local authorities to better understand the needs of people in their population, and to plan resources and commission services for young people and carers accordingly.	Paragraph 16.5 Care and Support statutory guidance
A transitions assessment must be carried out when there will be significant benefit to the young carer of doing it – this will generally be when their needs for care and support can be predicted reasonably confidently.	Paragraph 16.6 Care and Support statutory guidance
There is no set age for transitions assessments – they should take place when it is most appropriate for them.	Paragraph 16.7 Care and Support statutory guidance
<p>When considering if it is of ‘significant benefit’ to assess, the local authority should consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The circumstances of the young carer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Whether it is an appropriate time for the young carer to undertake an assessment which helps them to prepare for adulthood. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The stage they have reached at school and any upcoming exams</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Whether the young carer wishes to enter further/higher education or training</li> <li>- Whether the young carer wishes to get a job when they become a young adult</li> <li>- Whether the young carer is planning to move out of their parental home into their own accommodation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The time it might take to carry out an assessment</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>- The time it may take to plan and put in place the adult care and support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Any relevant family circumstances</li> <li>- Any planned medical treatment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Paragraph 16.10 Care and Support statutory guidance
If the young carer has an EHCP themselves, preparation for adulthood must begin from Year 9. The transition assessment should be undertaken as part of one of the annual statutory reviews of the EHC plan, and should inform a plan for the transition from children’s to adult care and support.	Paragraph 16.11 Care and Support statutory guidance
Local authorities should not carry out the transition assessment at inappropriate times in a young person’s life, such as when they are sitting their exams and it would cause disruption.	Paragraph 16.13 Care and Support statutory guidance
If a local authority refuses a request for a transitions assessment, it must provide its reasons for this in writing in a timely manner, and it must provide information and advice on what can be done to prevent or delay the development of needs for support.	S63(5) Care Act 2014 and Paragraph 16.14 Care and Support statutory guidance

Requirement/Principle	Source
<p>If the young carer is likely to have needs for support, but it is not yet of significant benefit to carry out a transitions assessment, the local authority should consider indicating when it believes the assessment will be of significant benefit. The onus is on the local authority to contact the young carer to agree the timing of the transition assessment, rather than leaving them in uncertainty or having to make repeated requests for an assessment.</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.15 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>Local authorities should consider how they can identify young carers who are not receiving children's services who are likely to have care and support needs as an adult. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Young carers whose parents have needs below the local authority's eligibility threshold but may nevertheless require advice or support to fulfil their potential, for example a child with deaf parents who is undertaking communication support</li> <li>- Young carers receiving Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)</li> </ul>	<p>Paragraph 16.18 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>Local authorities should consider how to establish mechanisms in partnership with local educational institutions, health services and other agencies to identify young carers as early as possible in order to plan and prevent the development of care and support needs.</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.20 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>Local authorities must consider the impact on other members of the family of the person receiving care and support. This will require the authority to identify anyone who may be part of the person's wider network of care and support. For example, caring responsibilities could have an impact on siblings' school work, or their aspirations to go to university. Young carers' assessments should include an indication of how any care and support plan for the person(s) they care for would change as a result of the young carer's change in circumstances. For example, if a young carer has an opportunity to go to university away from home, the local authority should indicate how it would meet the eligible needs of any family members that were previously being met by the young carer.</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.24 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>Transition assessments should support the young person and their family to plan for the future, by providing them with information about what they can expect. All transition assessments must include an assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Current needs for care and support and how these impact on wellbeing</li> <li>- Whether the young carer is likely to have needs for care and support after they become 18</li> <li>-If so, what those needs are likely to be, and which are likely to be eligible needs</li> <li>- The outcomes the young person or carer wishes to achieve in day-to-day life and</li> <li>- How care and support (and other matters) can contribute to achieving them</li> </ul>	<p>Paragraph 16.25 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>

<b>Requirement/Principle</b>	<b>Source</b>
<p>Transitions assessments must also consider whether the young carer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is able to care now and after they turn 18</li> <li>- Is willing to care now and will after they turn 18               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Works or wishes to do so</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Is or wishes to participate in education, training or recreation</li> </ul>	<p>Paragraph 16.26 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>The same requirements and principles apply for carrying out transition assessments as for other needs assessments under the adult statute. For example, assessments must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An assessment of the outcomes, views and wishes that matter to the young carer, and               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An assessment of their strengths and capabilities.</li> <li>- The power to join up assessments also applies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Paragraphs 16.27 and 16.28 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>The young carer must be involved in the assessment, as must anyone else the young carer wishes to be involved (e.g. parents)</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.29 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>Local authorities should ensuring that people have ensure young carers have general information and advice about adult care and support</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.30 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>If a local authority has self-assessments, then they must ensure that a young carer conducting a self-assessment is clear about the support available both to them and the person(s) they care for, avoiding a situation where the young carer assumes the default of continuing in the same caring role through ignorance of other options.</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.30 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>Transition assessments should be carried out in a reasonable timescale. Local authorities should inform the young person or carer of an indicative timescale over which the assessment will be conducted and keep them informed.</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.32 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>Transitions assessments should be proportionate to that person's needs</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.33 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>Transition assessments should consider the immediate short-term outcomes that a young carer wants to achieve as well as the medium and longer-term aspirations for their life. Progress towards achieving outcomes should be monitored.</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.34 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>
<p>The transitions assessment should build on existing information (e.g. Young Carers Needs Assessment, early help assessment)</p>	<p>Paragraph 16.36 Care and Support statutory guidance</p>

<b>Requirement/Principle</b>	<b>Source</b>
For young carers below the age of 16, local authorities will need to establish their competence using the test of 'Gillick competence' (whether they are able to understand a proposed treatment or procedure). Where the young carer is not competent, a person with parental responsibility will need to be involved in their transition assessment, – or an independent advocate provided if there is no one appropriate to act on their behalf	Paragraph 16.39 Care and Support statutory guidance
The Care Act places a duty on local authorities to provide an independent advocate to facilitate the involvement in the transition assessment where the person in question would experience substantial difficulty in understanding the necessary information or in communicating their views, wishes and feelings – and if there is nobody else appropriate to act on their behalf	Paragraph 16.40 Care and Support statutory guidance
Having carried out a transition assessment, the local authority must give an indication of which needs are likely to be eligible needs (and which are not likely to be eligible) once the young carer turns 18	Paragraph 16.51 Care and Support statutory guidance
There is a particularly important role for local authorities in ensuring that young carers understand their likely situation when they reach adulthood.	Paragraph 16.52 Care and Support statutory guidance
Where the transition assessment identifies needs that are likely to be eligible, local authorities should consider providing an indicative personal budget, so that young carers and their families are able to plan their care and support before entering the adult system	Paragraph 16.53 Care and Support statutory guidance
For any needs that are not eligible under the adult statute, local authorities must provide information and advice on how those needs can be met, and how they can be prevented from getting worse. Information and advice must be accessible and proportionate to whoever needs it and must consider individual circumstances. For example when providing information and advice to young carers, it is often more effective if information is given face-to-face from a trusted source, such as the young person's care coordinator.	Paragraph 16.54 Care and Support statutory guidance
The local authority and relevant partners should consider building on a transition assessment to create a person-centred transition plan that sets out the information in the assessment, along with a plan for the transition to adult care and support, including key milestones for achieving the young carer's desired outcomes.	Paragraph 16.57 Care and Support statutory guidance
Transition assessments and plans should be reviewed regularly to take account of changes both in circumstances and desired outcomes.	Paragraph 16.57 Care and Support statutory guidance

<b>Requirement/Principle</b>	<b>Source</b>
The Care Act requires local authorities to arrange preventative services, and to ensure a diverse range of quality providers of care and support in their local area.	Paragraph 16.59 Care and Support statutory guidance
Local authorities should consider jointly planning and commissioning these preventative services where there is potential to make better use of resources.	Paragraph 16.61 Care and Support statutory guidance
In advance of the move from children’s to adult social care, the local authority must decide whether to treat the transition assessment as a needs or carers assessment under the Care Act. In making this decision the local authority must have regard to when the transition assessment was carried out and whether the person’s circumstances have changed.	Paragraph 16.63 Care and Support statutory guidance
If the local authority will meet the young carer’s needs under the Care Act 2014 after they have turned 18, the local authority must undertake the care planning process (e.g. create a care and support plan and producing a personal budget	Paragraph 16.64 Care and Support statutory guidance
Local authorities must not allow a gap in care and support when young carers move from children’s to adult services.	Paragraph 16.67 Care and Support statutory guidance
Where a young carer wishes to attend a higher or further education institution, local authorities should help them identify a suitable institution as part of transition planning (if they have not done so already). Once an offer has been accepted, local authorities should ensure the relevant institution is made aware as soon as possible of the young carer’s needs and desired outcomes and discuss a plan for meeting them. Wherever possible, this should be a conversation involving the young person or carer, anyone else they wish to involve, the local authority, and the institution – as well as the local authority where the institution is located where appropriate.	Paragraphs 16.77 and 16.78 Care and Support statutory guidance