

POST-16 SUPPORT

From September 2014 some young people will be able to receive support through an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan until they are 25. Before, statements of special educational needs stopped at 19 for young people* who were still in school.

The support that young people with special educational needs or disabilities receive from age 16 will encourage young people to make decisions, and develop skills and qualifications that will enable them to achieve their aspirations and move into adulthood with confidence. Young people who have an EHC plan will be supported to move out of their plan and access the adult services they need.

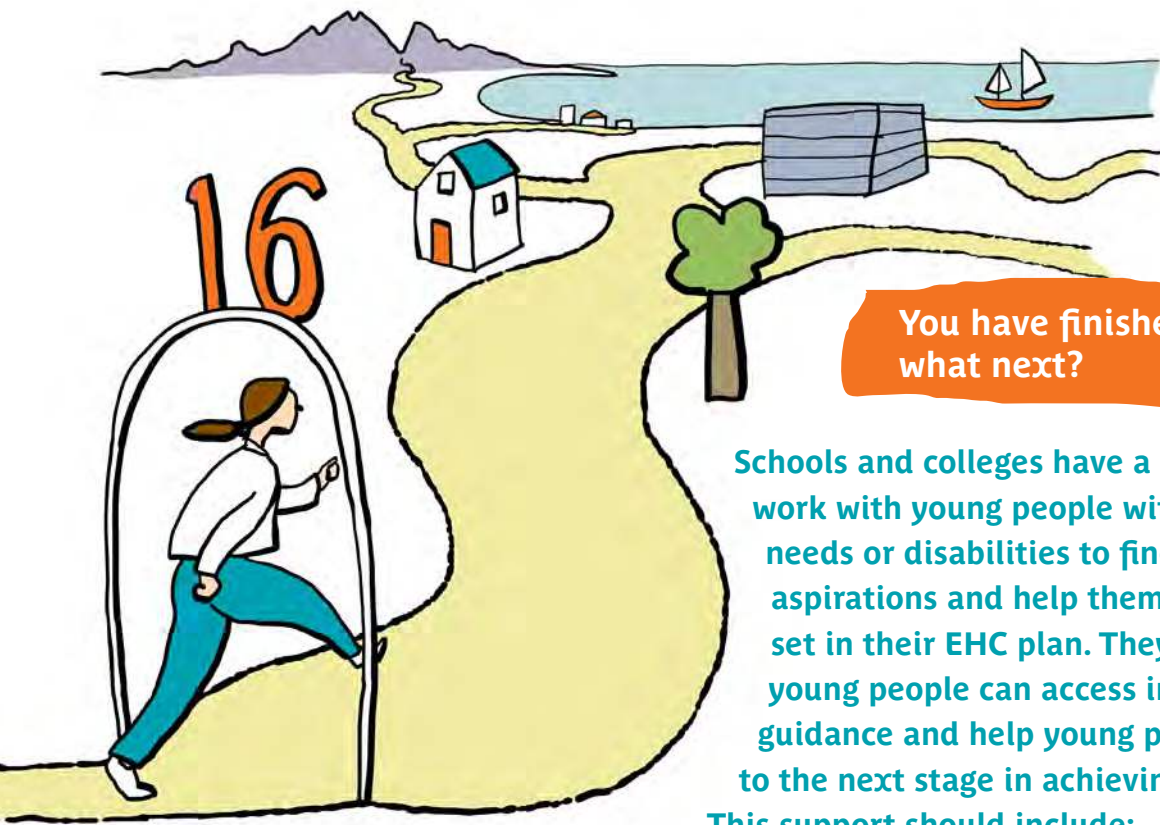
New rights and aspirations for young people

Under the new law, young people will have a greater say in the support they receive as part of their EHC plan, to help them achieve their aspirations such as going to university or work:

- they will be able to request the school or college they would like to attend
- they will be able to make their views and opinions heard, and those who support young people, such as teachers and local authority staff, will have to take into consideration what young people have to say and give more weight to their views, opinions and goals
- they will be able to access mediation services if they are unhappy about the educational support they receive. If they are still unhappy, they may be able to make an appeal to the SEND tribunal.



* A child is a person under compulsory school age. A young person is a person over compulsory school age but under 25. A person is no longer of compulsory school age after the last day of summer term during the year in which they become 16.



You have finished with school, what next?

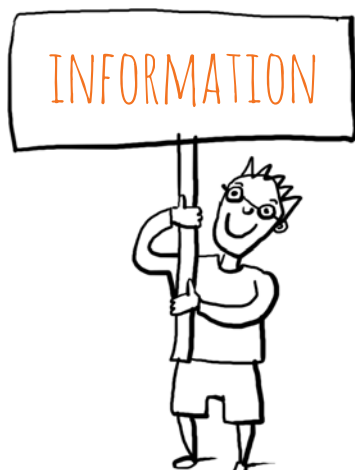
Schools and colleges have a responsibility to work with young people with special educational needs or disabilities to find out their aspirations and help them achieve the goals set in their EHC plan. They must make sure young people can access impartial careers guidance and help young people to move on to the next stage in achieving their goals.

This support should include:

- information about college and qualifications
- information about study programmes, including apprenticeships or supported internships
- applying to university and finding out what support you are entitled to.

You can find out more about the changes to your post-16 special educational needs or disability support by:

- talking to an impartial information, advice and support service. You can find contact information for one of these here:
www.parentpartnership.org.uk/find-your-pps/
- talking to your family, teachers, tutors and support workers
- getting in touch with your local authority. You can find their contact information on the GOV.UK website: <https://www.gov.uk/find-your-local-council>



To help you understand the changes to the law we have created a video, leaflet and poster each for four main areas of your SEN and disability support.

These four areas are:

- Education, Health and Care plans
- The Local Offer
- Post-16 support
- Making decisions



Department
for Education