

CHILDREN LEAVING CARE ACT

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The Right
Side of Care

therightsideofcare.com

The Leaving Care Act has two main aims:

1. To ensure that young people do not leave care until they are ready

2. To ensure that they receive more effective support once they have left

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES NEW DUTIES UNDER THE LEAVING CARE ACT

Aged 16-18:

- Duty to ensure pathway plan is in place by 16th birthday
- Duty to make assessment and meet needs
- Duty to provide financial support
- Duty to provide Personal Adviser
- Duty to ensure accommodation

Aged 18 and over (up to the age of 25 if you wish the support to continue)

- Duty to maintain contact and to provide support through Personal Adviser
- Duty to assist with costs of education, employment and training
- Duty to ensure you live in suitable accommodation

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If a Local Authority loses touch with a care leaver it must try everything to get back in contact with the young person, and to do so until contact is achieved.

ACCOMMODATION FOR CARE LEAVERS

- The leaving care act requires that all care leavers are provided with or maintained in suitable accommodation.
- Housing needs must be addressed before the Young Person leaves care as part of the pathway plan.
- It is important that both housing and Social care play a full role in providing support.
- Accommodation must be reasonably practicable for the Young Person given his/her needs.
- It is not legal for 16/17 year olds to have their own tenancy agreement. This can only happen when they reach 18.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the leaving care act go to www.anationalvoice.org/info/rights/childrens-leaving-care-act

Contacts

CHILDLINE

0800 1111

www.childline.org.uk

BULLYBUSTERS

0800 169 6928

Www.bullybusters.org.uk

CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER FOR ENGLAND

020 7783 8330

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

OFSTED

0300 123 1231

enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

0151 678 1936

Mob: 07799861764

WIRRAL COUNCIL CENTRAL ADVICE AND DUTY TEAM (CADT)

0151 606 1008

CHILDREN'S COMPLAINTS OFFICER

0151 666 5677

Freephone: 0800 328 7770

WIRRAL COUNCIL EMERGENCY DUTY TEAM

0151 677 6557

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