

Oxfordshire Parent Carers Forum

Moving Into Adulthood Team Webinar Summary

Introduction

Hosted by OxPCF in partnership with the Oxfordshire County Council Moving into Adulthood (MIA) Team, this webinar explored how families can prepare for the transition from adolescence into adulthood. Speakers Sam Harper, Jessica Jones, and Deborah Montgomery provided guidance on transition planning, EHCP considerations, Care Act eligibility, adult social care pathways, and employment and internship routes for young people aged 16-25.

Understanding the Moving into Adulthood Pathway

Key Insights from the Webinar

Planning for adulthood generally begins in Year 9 and continues throughout education. Transition planning focuses on four areas:

- Education / Employment
- Independent Living
- Friends, Community & Relationships
- Health & Wellbeing

Introducing the Team

Sam Harper, Head of Service for Learning Disability, Moving into Adulthood and Supported Employment, introduced the structure and purpose of the MIA Team. Jessica Jones, Team Manager, outlined how young people are supported through transitions between children's and adults' services.

What the Moving into Adulthood Team Does

The team supports young people by:

- Completing Care Act assessments
- Working jointly with schools, colleges, health professionals, SEND teams and families
- Providing a named worker for each young person
- Offering signposting, outreach, respite, supported living and direct payments
- Promoting independence and choice

Eligibility for Adult Social Care (Care Act 2014)

Eligibility considers:

1. Impairment or illness (diagnosis not always required)
2. Inability to achieve two or more daily living outcomes
3. Significant impact on wellbeing



TOGETHER
EVERYONE
ACHIEVES
MORE

Referrals to the Moving into Adulthood Team

- Referrals are not automatic.
- Anyone can refer: families, schools, or professionals.
- An EHCP is helpful but not required.
- The team supports young people with and without formal diagnoses.

Internships & Support into Employment (Delivered by Deborah Montgomery – Oxfordshire Employment Team)

Supported Employment

A structured model helping young people gain and sustain meaningful paid work, including:

- Vocational profiling
- Job matching and employer engagement
- Supported interviews and workplace visits
- Job coaching and on-site support
- Travel training

Supported Internships

A structured one-year program featuring:

- Real work placements (around 15 hours weekly)



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- One college day per week
- Travel training
- Site visits and taster sessions
- Planning beginning June/July for September starts

“Smart” Internships

A slower-paced, more supported pathway suitable for young people needing:

- Emotional readiness
- Confidence building
- Reduced-anxiety transitions

Q&A Summary

When should transition planning start?

From Year 9, reviews should begin focusing on life after school, and families should discuss goals, skills and any required assessments.

Do EHCPs automatically end at age 18?

No, they continue as long as the young person is in education or training and needs support.

How can I help my child build independence?

Through small tasks, routine building, decision-making, community engagement, and strengths-based support.

What if my child is anxious or avoids discussions about the future?

Use small, calm steps, reduce demands when needed, and build trust through positive experiences and low-pressure conversations.

How can non-verbal or selectively mute young people engage in transitions?

Through observation, sensory supports, visuals, predictable routines, and gentle communication.

How do we know if employment or internships are right for our young person?

Using taster sessions, profiling, trial shifts, and gradual exposure to workplace environments.

Useful Resources

- Oxfordshire Local Offer [Oxfordshire SEND local offer | Oxfordshire County Council](#)
- Moving into Adulthood Team info [Moving into adulthood | Oxfordshire County Council](#)
- Oxfordshire Employment Team [Oxfordshire Employment | Oxfordshire County Council](#)
- SENDIASS Oxfordshire [SENDIASS Oxfordshire – Provide Support to people with SENs in Oxfordshire](#)
- Carers Oxfordshire [Carers Oxfordshire supports unpaid carers in Oxfordshire](#)
- OxPCF Events, SEND Connect Newsletter & Your Voice/Feedback [Events | OxPCF Newsletters Your Voice | OxPCF](#)