

## **Housing Solutions @ The Hub: Additional Support for 16 and 17 Year Olds**

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If you are aged 16 or 17 and go to The Hub for advice or support, you may be offered or can ask for an assessment by the Children and Families Service. A Social Worker will discuss your needs with you and agree the best form of help and support for you. This might include becoming a **Child in Need** or coming into Care and becoming a **Looked After Child**.

### **What Help will I get as a Child in Need?**

As a Child In Need, you will be supported by a social worker in partnership with your family, who will consider which other professionals will be involved in providing support. This may include education welfare workers, personal advisors and youth workers. You will be supported in taking on the responsibilities for living independently, or in returning to live with your family (depending on your circumstances).

- You and your social worker will draw up a plan to detail what support you will receive and who will be providing that support.
- There will be meetings and reviews with you and any other people who become important in meeting your support needs. You will get help with:
  - Housing issues and appointments
  - Education, employment and training
  - Independent living skills
  - Support in keeping up relationships with family members
  - Health and wellbeing
  - Other advice and support as needed

- As you are 16 or over, you are entitled to receive Universal Credit and Housing Costs. You will be supported to claim your benefits if you are going to be living independently. You may get some temporary financial support until you receive your own benefits. If your benefit is backdated, then you will have to pay some of the money back.
- This support is available for as long as it is needed, or until you reach your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday

### **What Help will I get as a Looked After Child?**

As a Looked After Child, Children's Social Care will be responsible for looking after and supporting you in partnership with your family (if appropriate). You will be supported by a social worker, who will consider which other professionals will be involved providing support.

- You and your social worker will complete a Care Plan. This will detail what you need and how different agencies can help you. Your social worker will coordinate the agencies that are supporting you
- As part of the Care Plan, there will be a more detailed Placement Plan, which will set out what the placement will provide for you and what is expected of you. You will get help with:
  - Housing issues and appointments.
  - Education, employment and training
  - Independent living skills
  - Support in keeping up relationships with family members
  - Health and wellbeing
  - Other advice and support as needed

- There will be regular meetings and reviews (known as statutory reviews) involving yourself and the services that are supporting you to see if you are getting all the help and support you need. The reviews will be chaired by an Independent Reviewing Officer
- You will be offered regular Health checks. This includes checks on your height and weight, a general chat about how you are feeling and any health issues or any worries you may have. You will get help to register with a Doctor and Dentist if you don't have one
- Your rent will be paid for by Children's Social Care and you will get a weekly allowance payment. You may have to collect this weekly or daily from the Children's Social Care office
- Accommodation will be discussed with you by your social worker. You will not be able to choose to live in Bed and Breakfast accommodation as a Looked After Child
- You will have to claim benefits when you leave care if you are not earning a wage
- If you are looked after for 13 weeks or more you become entitled to the appointment of a personal adviser and support as a care leaver up until the age of 25 years.

**If you have any further questions about the support available you can contact your local Hub.**

## What is Housing Solutions @ The Hub?

Housing Solutions @ THE HUB is a partnership of organisations working across North Yorkshire with 16 – 25 year olds to prevention homelessness.



*A great place to live, work & play*



## Hub Contact details

**Craven:** 1 Bell Vue Square, Broughton Road, Skipton, BD23 1FJ. T: 01756706475

**Hambleton:** Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Northallerton, DL6 2UU. T: 08451211555

**Harrogate:** Harrogate Borough Council Civic Centre St Lukes Avenue Harrogate, HG1 2AE. T: 01423 500600

**Richmondshire:** Mercury House, Station Road, Richmond, DL10 4JX. T: 01748829100

**Ryedale:** Ryedale House, Old Malton Road, Malton, YO17 7HH. T: 01653600666

**Scarborough:** Foundation, 22 Victoria Road, Scarborough, YO11 1SD. T: 01723 361110

**Selby:** Access Selby, 8 – 10 Market Cross, Selby, YO8 4JS. T: 01757292229

Leaflet Reviewed: April 2019

## Information on Additional Support for 16 & 17 year olds



Additional Support you may be entitled to get from Children's Social Care

**I was offered an advocate.  
I understand what this leaflet says**

**Signed:.....Date:.....**