

# Dudley Connexions

## Guidance on transitions



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### What we did

Dudley Connexions produced two booklets to support young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and their parents or carers through post 16 transitions. The [Dudley Transition Guide and Your Choices booklet](#) are given to parents/carers and young people at all Year 9 statement reviews. Dudley Connexions works with local schools and post 16 providers to support young people 'at risk' of becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) or who are NEET.

### Why we did it

This was part of Dudley Council's wider strategy to ensure parents/carers and young people receive easy to understand information about transitions as early as possible. The booklets detail local information and provision available. We felt that this was important so families knew exactly what they can access locally. From 2012, we are hoping to send the booklets to Year 8 parents/carers with our regular introduction to Connexions letter. This will help ease anxieties as it will show the support offered during this big transition stage. It will also start preparing families for the Year 9 statement reviews.

### How this benefits young people

The Your Choices booklet enables young people to start planning and preparing for their future choices early. It also assures young people that they are not alone and that they will receive help and support throughout the process. The Transition Guide for parents/carers details information to help prepare them to support their child through transition. The guide also shows that parents/carers have a critical role to play in their children's post 16 decisions.

### Suggestions for schools and colleges

See whether your local Connexions Service or Local Authority has done anything similar. If they haven't, make sure that parents/carers and young people know where to go for support and guidance from Year 9 onwards. You may find our Transitions Guide and Your Choices booklet are helpful starting points.

### Want to know more?

You can find more information about Connexions and the services we provide on our [website](#). You can also contact Helen Ellis, Connexions Manager at Dudley Council, on 01384 811400 or email [helen.ellis@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:helen.ellis@dudley.gov.uk).