

Moving on: Year 11 to Yr 12

- If you have an EHCP

(Please see our separate factsheet on planning for year 12 if you do not have an EHCP)

When to start planning for your year 12 (or post-16) college placement

- Change can be difficult, so it's important to plan early.
- You can start formally planning for year 12 as early as the year 9 annual review meeting of your EHCP.
- Year 10 or early in year 11 is an ideal time to visit the college you would like to attend in year 12.
- Open evenings usually happen in September or October. You may need to book a place, so look at the college websites for dates and times.
- Try to visit during the daytime, too. Your parent/carer or school can help you arrange this.

How do I choose a post-16 placement?

- In this factsheet, we refer to all post-16 settings as 'college'. However, there are different types. To find out more, you can also read our factsheet called 'Choosing a Post-16 Setting (If you have an EHCP)'.
- In 'other useful information' below you will find a list of post-16 settings in West Sussex.
- If you went to a mainstream school in year 11, it's likely you'll go to a mainstream college in year 12.
- Some young people who attended a specialist placement in year 11 are ready to move on to a mainstream placement in year 12.
- If you're not sure which colleges your EHCP will fund, check Section I of your EHCP. Or you can ask your parent/carer, your school SENCO or your SENAT SEND Officer.
- Applying for a year 12 course
- Applying for college is very different to applying for a school place. Speak to the people who know you well (e.g. your teachers, SENCO, parent/carer) before you choose a college or a course. Don't choose it just because your friends are going there!
- Many of your friends will apply for more than one college course and it's a good idea for you to visit different colleges, too. Try to think of a first choice (or 'preferred setting') but have a back-up plan, too. Let your SENAT SEND Officer know, too. Then, during your year 11 EHCP annual review meeting you can formally ask SENAT to name your 'preferred setting' in your year 12 EHCP.
- If SENAT agree that your preferred setting can be funded by your EHCP, they will send the college a copy of your EHCP. If the college can meet your needs and if SENAT agree that your EHCP can fund your placement, your parent/carer will be sent an amended EHCP to confirm your year 12 placement. If SENAT do not agree to name your preferred setting, then you can appeal this decision if you wish.
- If you don't think you will pass many exams in year 11, most colleges offer an entry level ("Gateway") course



- Once you know which college and course you will attend, a team of people (your parent/carer, your school SENCO and the additional learning support coordinator in your college) will work with you to plan for year 12.
- You will usually be invited to attend a college interview, too, so that you can find out more about the support you will get at college.
- It's likely that you will have several transition visits to your college during year 11. Some young people also attend transition events in the summer holidays, too.

IMPORTANT POINTS for you and your parent/carer to consider

- You can ask for extra visits to your college, so that you feel ready for college in September.
- Think about how you will get to the college. Practise your journey over the summer holidays. Most young people travel to college by bus or train, even if the local authority arranged transport for them at school.
- You may be eligible for Post-16 travel assistance
- When you start your college course in September you will attend an enrolment day. This is the first formal day of your course. This is when you will get your college timetable, etc.

Other useful information

- Look at our '[Post-16 Schools and Colleges in West Sussex list](#)' under our Post 16 series.
- Get some careers advice: your school can arrange for you to speak to a careers advisor. You can also contact the National Careers Service.
- You may be eligible for support from the West Sussex careers team if you are not currently in education, employment, or training (known as NEET). There may be a waiting list for their service. If you would like to find out more, you can self-refer via this [link](#)
- Chichester College Group are the main provider of Further Education in West Sussex. If you need additional support at college, you can contact their Additional Learning Support team.
- West Sussex Local Offer. This is a directory of information about SEND provision in West Sussex. Just type a key word at the top (e.g. 'post 16 transport' or 'benefits' or 'preparing for adulthood' or 'apprenticeships') to find local information on any topic you're interested in.
- Need further advice? You can [contact SENDIAS](#) for impartial and confidential advice from one of our Young Person Advisors



Service Statement

The role of the SENDIAS service is to ensure all parents, children and young people have access to impartial information, advice and support so they can make informed decisions related to their situation. Any information that is shared with the service is in confidence unless permission has been obtained to share this with any individuals, services and agencies that may be able to help in the circumstances. For more detail, view our [policies and privacy notice](#) on our website.

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