

PfA Self-evaluation tool: Local Authority – Children's Social Care



The Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) suite of self evaluation tools are designed to support professionals from across education, health and social care, and in both children's and adults' services, to ensure young people and their families are able to prepare effectively for adulthood.

Each tool is made up of a list of key themes for each audience and considers what should be happening in local areas. Professionals can use the self evaluation tool to understand what is working well and where things might need to improve.

For each audience it signposts to key PfA resources that support practice. It will identify key messages from Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014 and link to other relevant legislation and statutory guidance. For additional wider resources related to preparation for adulthood please visit our [resource hub](#).

This tool is designed for professionals working in Children's social care. For a fuller picture it can be read in conjunction with the checklist for Adults' social care.

Does this happen?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely/ Never	Key Resources (click to view)
<p>EHC planning and reviews are person-centred and focus on PfA outcomes from year 9¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social workers are confident about how they can prepare young people and their families to think about life outcomes² before their assessment, planning meeting or annual reviews of EHC plans, even when the young person does not use verbal communication. • Social workers have had relevant training so they know what helps disabled young people achieve good life outcomes. • Social workers are aware of who they need to involve to help disabled young people achieve good life outcomes. • Social workers are trained and confident in informing and reviewing EHC plan outcomes at annual PfA reviews to ensure that they are as 'SMART' as possible. • Social workers understand the principles of the Mental Capacity Act 2005³ and apply them appropriately to enable young people to have a say in their planning and decision making. • EHC planning and review processes are aligned with assessment and planning processes across health and social care for children's and adults' services. 				<p>PfA Factsheet: The links between the Children and Families Act 2014 and The Care Act 2014</p> <p>The PfA Review Toolkit</p> <p>PfA Factsheet: The Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Supported Decision Making</p> <p>The role of social care in implementing the Children and Families Act 2014</p>
<p>1 Chapter 8 SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years</p> <p>2 including employment, independent living, community inclusion and good health</p> <p>3 The Mental Capacity Act 2005 Code of Practice.</p>				

Does this happen?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely/ Never	Key Resources (click to view)
<p>Young people and their families can access good information, advice and support on children's social care¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Offer has a well-developed Preparing for Adulthood section that clearly identifies the social care support and provision available for young people aged 14+.² • The Information, Advice and Support Service is equipped to support young people up to the age of 25, including in relation to social care.³ • Children's social care works in partnership with education, health, adult's social care, schools, post-16 providers, housing and employment providers to ensure they have a good understanding of support and services available and how young people can access them. <p><small>1 Chapter 4 SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years 2 Paragraph 4.52 SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years 3 Paragraph 2.1 SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years</small></p>				<p>Developing the Preparation for Adulthood section of the Local Offer</p> <p>PfA Workforce Development: A Guide</p> <p>PfA Factsheet: Joint commissioning in Action</p>

Does this happen?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely/ Never	Key Resources (click to view)
<p>Young people can access support that leads to fulfilling adult lives in line with the PfA outcomes¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local authority has good information and monitoring systems to allow children’s social care to forecast demand for support relating to training and employment; housing and support; and community inclusion support based on EHC plans and/or annual reviews of young people from 14+. • The local authority and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) provide market statements to develop evidence based support for employment; independent living; good health and wellbeing; and friends, relationships and community inclusion. • Short break opportunities and personal budgets are used to support progress towards the PfA outcomes (eg. Personal Assistants as Job coaches) 				<p>PfA: Workforce Development - A Guide</p> <p>PfA Factsheet: Joint commissioning in Action</p>

¹ Chapter 8 [SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years](#)

About this publication

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