

Transition Webinar



November 2015



Department
for Education

Transition Webinar - Aims

- To share the transition workshop content more widely
- To share learning from Year 1
- To support LAs with their strategic planning for the transfer of statements and LDAs
- To explain the implications of the updated guidance



Feedback from Year 1



Feedback from Parents

Positives

- Like the focus on strengths and outcomes.
- Feeling more empowered and central to the discussions.
- Happy with format and content of the EHC plans.
- EHC plans -better than statements; reflect the whole child

Concerns

- Frustration over length of time between initial meeting and getting the final plan.
- Don't fully understand the process.
- Issues with post-16 system.



LA Feedback – biggest challenges:

- Capacity;
- Getting quality and timely information from other agencies, particularly health and schools;
- Meeting the timescales.



Changes to Transition Plans in 2014-15

56% of LAs made changes. Reasons:

- Early transfer numbers reduced, reflecting the need to refine processes and build capacity.
- Recruiting additional staff took longer than expected to recruit; now in place; now confident of making good progress.
- Learned that to do the transfer plans in the spirit of the Act **and** be person-centred **and** get new reports as needed; these cannot be done at the rate we first expected.
- Partners not providing the appropriate information in time.
- Updated several times to include guidance to schools and others on preparing and conducting the transfer review.



Individual Feedback from Transfer Reviews



- My feelings are that this is a vast improvement on the statement and takes into account everything about your child, including the family. So don't be worried or scared when your child's review comes, you will be pleasantly surprised and come away feeling positive. (Parent)
- I think the way the new EHCP have been conducted was a lovely change. Having everyone to contribute was effective and positive. (Parent)
- Has been overwhelmingly positive in terms of strengthening partnership with our pupils and their families by clarifying and working towards their aspirations for their adult lives. (School)



**To what extent does
this profile reflect your
views of Year 1 in your
LA?**

How do you know?

Reflect



The Transfer Review Process:

The Who, the How and the By When

From September 2015



Transition to the new 0 to 25 special educational needs and disability system

Departmental advice for local authorities
and their partners

[https://www.gov.uk/gov
ernment/publications/s
end-managing-
changes-to-legislation-
from-september-2014-
-3](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/special-educational-needs-and-disability-system-changes-to-legislation-from-september-2014-3)

Third edition: September 2015

Planning the Transfers

LAs should aim to make the new arrangements for all children and young people (YP) as quickly as they can.

- All statements to be converted by 1 April 2018.
- LDAs – Those with an LDA who are continuing in FE or training beyond 1 Sept 2016 who need an EHC plan should have one by 1 Sept 2016.
- Transition plan - was initially published Sept 2014.
- Progress report to be published annually.



Requirements and expectations relating to the transfer of different groups of children and YP

Guidance clarifies

- statutory requirements (R)
- non-statutory expectations (E)

Check you know which groups you need to transfer and when

No.	Groups of children or young people	Latest academic year for transfer to new SEND system			
		Statutory requirements (R) or non-statutory expectations (E)			
		2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 (by 1/4/18)
1	Children moving from a relevant early years setting to school	E	R	R	R
2	Children moving from infant to junior school	E	R	R	R
3	Children moving from primary to middle school	E	R	R	R
4	Children moving from primary to secondary school	E	R	R	R
5	Children moving from middle to secondary	E	R	R	R



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1. If the child is just moving from infant to junior, do we have to do a transition review?

2. When must our Year 6s be finished by?



Definitions

- **Transfer Review** – the whole period of the transfer process, from notification to issue of final EHC plan
- **Notification** – information from the LA to the family that the process will be undertaken, with a start date
- **Transfer Review Process** – the period beginning from the notified start date
- **Transfer Review Meeting** – a meeting that is held as part of the Transfer Review process, usually in a school or college



Timescales

For Transfer Reviews of statements commenced on or after 1 September 2015, timescales are as follows:

- **Notification period** - LA must provide a minimum of **two weeks'** notice of the date of the start of the Transfer Review process.
- **Transfer Review Process** – the period of the assessment, with a maximum of **18 weeks** from the notified start date.



1. What you seem to be saying is that the process can take more than 20 weeks. Is this actually the case?
2. Can you send a pre notification letter without any legal standing? This would include information about roughly when the transfer would start.



Eligibility



Eligibility – Statements to EHCPs

- The legal test of when a child or young person requires an EHC plan remains the same as that for a statement under EA 1996
- Expect that children and YP who have a statement and who would have continued to have one, will usually be transferred to an EHC plan.
- No child or young person should lose their statement and not have it replaced with an EHC plan **simply because the SEN system is changing.**



Eligibility – LDAs to EHCPs

- LDAs issued for YP either because they had a statement at school or because the LA judged that they are likely to need additional support as part of their FE or training and would benefit from a LDA to identify their learning needs and the provision required to meet those needs.
- The expectation is that YP who are currently receiving support as a result of a LDA and remain in FE or training during the transition period, who request and need an EHC plan, will be issued with one.



1. Do plans actually go up to 25?

2. How do you decide if someone with an LDA requires an EHCP?



To conduct a Transfer Review, LAs must:

- give at least two weeks' notice of the start of the Transfer Review Process;
- undertake an EHC needs assessment in accordance with Part 5 of the Transitional and Saving Order 2014;
- have regard to the 2015 Code in undertaking the assessment;
- ensure that child's parents or the YP are invited to a meeting to contribute to the Transfer Review, in advance of the EHC plan being finalised.



The Transfer Review Meeting

- Part of the Transfer Review Process
- Aim to consult or engage the child's parents or the YP.
- Precise purpose will vary depending on the point during the Transfer Review Process that it takes place.
- LAs determine who should attend the meeting.
- Might take the format of an annual review meeting - a range of relevant professionals consider the progress of the child/ YP and the future provision required.
- Might take place between LA and the child's parents or the YP to discuss the draft EHC plan.



Advice for Transfer Reviews

- LA **must not** seek any advice required for an EHC needs assessment if such advice has previously been provided for any purpose **and** (i) the person providing that advice, (ii) the LA and (iii) the child's parents or the YP agree that it is sufficient.
- In deciding whether existing advice is sufficient, it is likely that the following will be considered:
 - ☐ how recently advice was provided;
 - ☐ whether and how far the needs of the child or young person have changed since it was given; and
 - ☐ whether it is sufficiently focused on the outcomes sought for the child or young person.



**How do/will you manage
the process of decision-
making around whether
existing advice is
sufficient**

Reflect



1. Must the LA actually meet the family as part of the process, and, if so, who from the LA must meet them?



Transfers of LDAs to EHC plans

- LAs **must** consider requests for EHC needs assessment under the 2014 Act for a YP with a LDA.
- If the request is not made by the YP, assessment **must** only proceed with the YP's agreement.
- LAs have **6 weeks** following a request to decide whether it is necessary to carry out an assessment.
- LAs have **20 weeks** from notifying YP that it intends to carry out an assessment, or from when the YP requests EHC needs assessment, to issue an EHC plan, where required.



1. What do we do if a parent writes in asking for a EHC needs assessment for their 18-year-old child who has a LDA?



The LA's Transition Plan



Transition plan should include:

- Which groups were consulted;
- Nos of statements and nos of LDAs planned for transfer in each year of the transition period;
- Order in which CYP will be transferred;
- How and when parents and YP, and their educational institution, will be made aware of the arrangements;
- Details of the transfer review process;
- Arrangements for transfers of LDAs;
- Sources of independent SEN information and advice;
- Who parents and YP can contact with queries.



**To what extent does your
published Transition Plan
cover all of these
expectations?**

**Do you have any plans to
amend?**

Reflect



Transfer Reviews: Summary

An EHC
needs
assessment

The LA is
responsible

Schools/
colleges
play key
role

ISs can
help
families
and YP

Young
person can
ask for an
assessment

Statements
by April 18,
LDAs by
Sept 16

No child to
lose out

Can use
existing
advice
where
agreed

For LDAs,
max 20
weeks

For
statements,
20 weeks



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**1. Which is most important
– quality or timeliness?**



Tracking transfers



Tracking transfers in Leeds



The Bury Transfer Tree





**How are you tracking
your transfers?**

Reflect



LA presentations



LA	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bedford (EE)	Context & Ethos	Transition plan	The family conversation	What has gone well?	Issues & challenges	Target state 2018	What it means for stakeholders	Where to next
Nottinghamshire (EM)	Approach	Progress	Challenges	Learning points	Next steps			
Brent (LN)	Our approach	What went well	Challenges	The future	What's left to do			
Hartlepool (NE)	Context	What has worked well	Learning in Hartlepool	Next steps				
Manchester (NW1)	<div>Download at:</div> <div>www.sendpathfinder.co.uk</div>							
Blackpool (NW2)								Future planning
Warrington NW3								
Kent (SE1 & 2)								KCC priorities 15/16
Gloucestershire (SW1)	Timeline	Progress to date	Future plans	What we have learnt	Future planning	Transition Plan	LDAs v statements	Feedback
Plymouth (SW2)	Context Co-production	Planning & Assessment model	Transfer arrangements	Conversion Officer role	Statistics	Post 16	How things are different	Lessons learned
Sandwell (WM)	Context & challenge	Critical elements	Transfer targets	Practice makes perfect	Results	Learning	Transfer reviews	The future
York (Y&H)	Overview & Planning	What has worked well	Listening to CYP and PCs	Feedback	Supporting settings	Supporting colleagues	Statistics	Challenges



Further questions

Please send any further questions or clarifications via email with 'Transition webinar' in the subject line to SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com

