

Staying in Education



*The Child Brain Injury Trust is a national charity supporting anyone affected by childhood acquired brain injury. The following information has been developed to help the reader understand more about brain injury and some of the associated issues. Every effort has been taken to ensure the information is accurate and up to date. If you require more immediate support or assistance please contact our **Advice, Information & Referral Service on 0303 3032248.***

The following E-Learning sessions which families and professionals can access without charge may also be beneficial:

[Understanding Childhood Acquired Brain Injury](#)

[Basic Brain Anatomy and Functions](#)

[Understanding and Managing Fatigue](#)

[Understanding and Managing Attention and Concentration](#)

[Understanding and Managing Behaviour](#)

[Understanding and Managing Perception](#)

[Understanding and Managing Memory](#)

[Understanding and Managing Social Skills](#)

[Understanding and Managing Organisation and Planning](#)

[Education – Rights for Parents Incl SEN](#)

The **Education Funding Agency** funds education and training for students aged 16 to 19 and up to age 25 for learners with disabilities and/or learning difficulties, rather than the Local Authority. Funding is dependent on class numbers, which essentially means that the school will benefit if more children remain at school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/education-funding-agency>

If you are coping with the demands of the curriculum, you can **stay in school** until the age of 18. From 1st September 2014, any children or young people who were newly referred to a local authority for assessment were considered under the new **Education, Health and Care (EHC)** plan assessment process. These new plans will cover you up to the age of 25 years.

Transferring children and young people with a Statement of SEN to the new EHC plan was phased. Every local authority has published a Local Transition Plan setting out the timings for transfers to the new system.



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If you're not sure about whether to stay on at school or go to a **sixth form college**, some schools run courses jointly with further education colleges to let you see what college life is like by attending one or two days a week. Also, some schools will have arrangements with other local schools as they may be able to offer you more options.

Although leaving school and starting somewhere new might seem a bit strange, going to a sixth form college can have lots of advantages. A sixth form college can be a more informal environment than a school sixth form and, because they are usually bigger, sixth form colleges can often offer you more study options. Most students will be aged 16-19, so will be about your age.

You will also get to meet lots of new people and make new friends as sixth form colleges take students from many different schools.

It's important to think about the things you may need if you are disabled or have learning disabilities; a support teacher, for example, or specialist equipment. Many disabled students prefer attending sixth form college as this option offers more independence that can also teach you the skills you need for the workplace or university.

Colleges of Further Education offer a wide range of vocational and personal development courses. If you can't cope with a full curriculum or the workload, and could benefit from additional support, many colleges offer 'stepping stones' type courses which allow young people with additional support needs the opportunity to learn at a pace that suits them.

There are a small number of **specialist colleges** across the UK, some of which are residential. Specialist colleges can often give the best range of options in terms of opportunities and they usually have existing support in place. There are colleges that work specifically with young people with an acquired brain injury, although these are few and far between. For more information view the 'Natspec' website at www.natspec.org.uk.

Top Tips

- If you are considering further education or training, you will be entitled to an assessment in the final year of school, if this is not covered in your EHC Plan.
- You can apply for a Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA), which involves an assessment of need. DSA's are grants to help with the extra costs you may have as a result of your disability and don't have to be paid back. <https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas>
- Disclosing a disability won't guarantee a place at University, but should not be used to deny you a place.
- It is easy enough to find out what support might be available prior to enrolling at a particular University. University websites will usually provide further information and relevant contact details.

- It is worthwhile checking with your local authority about transport as it may no longer be provided free of charge.
- You should be encouraged to identify what you would like to learn more about. For more information, visit the National Careers Service website at <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/Pages/Home.aspx> or speak with your local authority.

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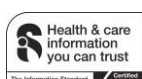
The Child Brain Injury Trust relies on grants and donations to enable us to continue our work supporting families affected by childhood acquired brain injury.

Please help us to continue our work by making a donation today – [CLICK HERE](#) to make a one off donation or set up a monthly gift.

Thank you – your donation does make a difference



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