



# Yewstock College

## 14-19 Transition Support

### Pupils, Parents, Professionals, Providers

19 November 2019

#### Minutes

- Another really good meeting with 12 parents/carers represented as well as Head of 14-19 (Christine Chadwick), P16 Lead Teacher (Tom Maher), Ansbury Careers Advisor (Jess Allen), Employ My Ability Referral, Assessments and Transition Manager (Paula Harris), Mental Capacity Act Adviser (Sue Farmer) and Dorset Parent Carer Council Representative Elaine Okopski
- Key areas highlighted: Where will the young person live? How will the young person stay connected to the community and the people they care about? How will the young person's health and safety needs be addressed? And How will the young person access employment or meaningful activity?
- These things need addressing at age 13 at least?
- A good question to ask is: How will the 5 days previously filled by school be filled now?
- Ideally, the young person's days at school would gradually decrease after 16 years old and be replaced by opportunities in the next setting or similar to that provision so that leaving school is not such a shock.
- Considerations need to be made around transport and finances.
- A difficult area to address is capacity, deciding on Best Interest and Deputyship.
- Deputyship can begin at 18 years old and will need a capacity assessment.
- It is best to see a solicitor with SEND experience and knowledge of SEND finance as this is a tricky area to navigate.
- There is help out there to look after finances through charities or solicitors for larger sums of money.
- Court of Protection will regularly monitor handling of finances.
- Recent changes in Dorset Council- 'Re-charge'.
- Important to lobby your councillors. There will be 'Question Time' opportunities.
- Katie Guy spoke about her idea to set up a Friday Night Disco for our young people as there are limited opportunities nearby for these experiences. This would also give parents and carers another opportunity to meet up.
- Suggested social opportunities: Friendship Club and Dorset People First and also The Big Night Out in Bournemouth- great real-life experience of a night out.
- Parents and carers agreed it feels like a 'cliff edge', but hearing success stories from professionals who also have experience as parents of young people with SEND.
- Care Act runs alongside Children and Families Act. The Care Act enables young people to have a needs assessment as well as parents and carers to have an assessment. This assessment takes place here at Yewstock during the Year 9 Review.
- There is a new Education, Health and Care Plan format and review procedure which will improve the whole process.
- We heard from Paula about what Employ My Ability has to offer, what type of individualised programmes they have, support provided and aims to get people into employment. Paula and Jess offered to take parents and carers to EMA after the meeting to have a look around.
- Reminder that transition plans are based on what the young person wants and needs, not what anyone else wants them to have or do.
- **Open to feedback and suggestion for future meetings format, days and times!**



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