

Preparing for Adulthood

A Guide to Transition Beyond Woodlands

2025/ 2026



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1. Introduction.

Preparing for a successful transition beyond Woodlands is a process that starts in Year 9. This allows parents and students plenty of time to research and visit the various post 16 and 18 options and to ensure that the right provision is in place for their son/daughter when they leave Woodlands.

For some students in year 11, a more suitable post 16 provision might be available e.g. an alternative school's 6th form, a college or through a supported internship or apprenticeship and these options will be discussed from their year 9 EHCP review.

Students who remain at Woodlands for their post 16 provision generally leave at the end of year 14 but transition can also occur at the end of Year 13 if a suitable adult placement is more appropriate.

The role of the school in transition is to provide support and impartial advice throughout the process but it is essential that parents and carers become pro-active from Year 9 onwards as it is you and the students who will make the final decisions and submit applications etc. All students will be supported to have their voice heard throughout the transition and decision making process so that their opinions and preferences can be taken into account.

The earlier that decisions are made then the greater the support that can be put in place to ensure a smooth transition. If college places are sought, teachers can ensure that the paperwork for EHCP reviews reflect this leading up to Year 14, especially the aspirations, outcomes and targets.

For students who leave Woodlands at 18 or 19, there are various options available to them. The two main routes are a college

placement (if a student has evidence of the potential to make further educational progress) or an adult social care package and for some there will be elements of both. E.g. The transition team are responsible for arranging provision for non college days/ holiday provision and adult respite or supported living.

It is also helpful to note that some adult services can commence while a student is still attending school e.g. adult day provisions during weekends and holidays as well as supported living placements while students continue to attend school or college.

As well as preparing for life beyond Woodlands, parents should also start to think longer term. Some college placements can be as short as 1 to 3 years and so parents must ideally have a plan beyond college before their sons/daughters leave Woodlands.

2. The role of the SEND team.

The Surrey SEND team work to the SEND code of practice and the aim is for transition plans to have a person centred approach.

A member of the team will aim to attend Annual review meetings for students from Year 9 onwards.

The code of practice states that the majority of students should be educated in mainstream/local settings E.g. Nescot, Merrist Wood, Brooklands. The aim is to meet the needs of young people locally without the need to use independent/ out of county providers and Surrey are working to identify and fill the gaps where possible.

The 4 'Preparing for Adulthood' outcomes (employment, independent living, community inclusion and health) are usually more successful if delivered locally.

Throughout the process, it is important to keep the needs of the young person at the centre of the process (rather than just the family's wishes). If a residential college placement is being sought, Surrey will look carefully at whether a student's needs could be better met in very personalised supported living placement alongside a place at a local college.

The SEND post 16 team run transition events for parents in each quadrant of the county once a year, where colleges and adult social care providers are available to offer advice.

Parents are advised to contact colleges for advice on their application process and submit expressions of interest during Year 13 and to submit formal applications for their preferred college placement early in the Autumn term of a student's final year at Woodlands and to put in as many applications and expressions of interest as they feel are suitable.

All Y14 EHCP reviews are scheduled to be completed by the end of November of the final year to allow time for the documents to be sent to colleges for formal consultations and to the funding panels to be reviewed and agreed. Parents can name desired placements in the young person's/parent's aspirations documents but these cannot be named in sections B, E or F of the EHCP review document.

Although EHCPs state they are from 0 to 25, there is no legal right to continued education post 19. Therefore, good attendance at school is important and students need to have shown progress over their time at school for the EHCP to continue.

If a young person is not transitioning to college then the EHCP will cease.

Chargeable transport/ travel assistance to college is arranged by the Surrey SEND team and is applied for using the same process/ portal as for post 16 home to school transport. However, if a student has a Motability car, they may request that this is used for transport to college. It is also important to note that students might only qualify for travel assistance if they are going to their nearest available suitable college and where no alternative public transport options are available.

**Surrey local offer website -
www.surreylocaloffer.org.uk**

**Surrey SEND information, advice and support service
(SSIASS) - ssiass@surreycc.gov.uk**

01737 737300

3. The role of the Transition Team

The transition team work with young people from 14 – 25 to ensure a smooth transition from children’s services to adult services. Their aim is to promote independence and to help young people maximise their skills.

Where a young person already has access to children’s services the Transition team will not become fully involved until they are 18 – when funded services can commence.

For a young person who has not had access to children’s services, a new referral will be made through the SEND case worker well before they are 18.

The transition team support young people who require a social care element to their post 18 package, often this is alongside an educational placement.

The transition team aim to hold annual coffee mornings and information events at Woodlands.

Each young person is allocated a case worker who will attend annual reviews (where possible) leading up to their 18th birthday, especially where extra support is required.

At 17/18 each young person will have an ‘Adult social care assessment’ to see if they are eligible for services from the transition team as well as the funding required for their social care package. It identifies areas of need and considers the whole family.

After the assessment, the young person and/or their families will be notified and sent a copy of the assessment.

The transition team will then put a care plan in place to ensure that the young person's social care needs are fully met. This may include a Personal assistant (PA), day centres/activities, supported living etc.

The plan is then authorised by a manager and can take 6-8 weeks to put in place. It is then reviewed after 3 months, 6 months and eventually annually. Every time there is a change in circumstances, a new assessment will be undertaken e.g. leaving school, leaving college or moving out of the family home.

Some young people with high care needs will also be supported to complete a NHS Continuing Healthcare Checklist assessment.

Parents can also have a carer's assessment 6 months before their son/daughter turns 18. This assesses the support that you may need in your caring role as well as other members of the family.

Each young person will also have a financial assessment to assess what benefits they are receiving and whether they will be required to contribute to their support package. It is important to note that most young people will be asked to contribute towards respite/residential packages from their other benefits/ income. Please do check this contribution and appeal if you think it is too high as errors do occur.

It is important to note that if the young person has a Motability car as part of their support package then this will most likely be required to transport them to/from respite and day activity providers.

Funding for social care packages can be provided in different ways:

- 1. Directly from Surrey County Council to the provider but Surrey must have a contract with these providers, so it can be restrictive.**
- 2. Direct payments – where the young person has an account in their name (or a 3rd party), and money from SCC is paid quarterly from the support plan. This gives greater flexibility with providers and meeting social care needs.**
- 3. Pre-paid account – this is similar to direct payments. SCC open an account and the young person is given a card to pay for different services.**
- 4. Supported managed accounts – Surrey Independent Living Council (SILC) will manage the direct payments for the young person.**

Once the payment method is agreed the support package starts.

There is an agreement that the money is only used for what is on the plan. Families can ask permission to use it on something different but this **MUST be approved by the transition team.**

If there are any issues a re-assessment can be requested.

There is an online assessment tool for parents to use to find out if a young person will be eligible for social care support from Surrey County Council. Please do have a look at this as it will give you the information you will need to provide for the social care assessment at 18.

Transition team: 01276 800270

(9am to 5pm Mon to Fri)

transitionteam@surreycc.gov.uk

4. What to expect during the transition process:

Years 9 to 11: (Students aged 13-16)

- From Year 9 onwards, parents/carers will be supported through the transition process.
- At the Year 9 annual review, parents/carers will be asked to give their initial thoughts on what they would like for their son/daughter beyond Woodlands. The 'Preparing for Adulthood' section of the EHCP review form will be completed, noting any options to explore. The support needed to explore these options will also be identified. This section will be updated at each subsequent annual review.
- Students and parents are advised that they can look at potential alternative post 16 options for year 12 onwards.
- Good attendance at school is important over the next 5 years if a college place is sought, as progress throughout KS 4 and 5 must be evident at the Year 14 ECHP review to secure funding for a college place.
- **Students moving in to Years 10 & 12 will need to re-apply for their home to school transport. Those in Year 12 are required to re-apply every year and to pay a contribution.** This can take up to 6 weeks, so applications should be made early in the summer term of each term. School will send out details of how to apply for this.

Action points for parents/carers:

- Attend Year 9 Annual Review with initial ideas of what you would like for your son/daughter beyond Woodlands.
- Attend transition events and meetings that are arranged.
- Start visiting colleges and providers and put your young person's name on waiting lists if required.
- Seek advice about benefits that will become available when your son/daughter becomes 16 – especially Universal Credit and the 16 – 19 bursary (see section 10).
- **Contact Surrey Transport to apply for transport for Year 10 and 12 onwards.**
- Open a bank account in your son/daughter's name before they turn 16.
- Explore local alternative post 16 options as required.

Year 12: (Students aged 16-17)

- Students will be referred to the transition team if they are not already known to social services or had access to children's services.
- As part of the KS5 curriculum, most students have access to a taster session at a local college to begin to familiarise themselves with a college setting and for staff to assess whether a college placement will be appropriate for each student at 19.
- Students will also start accessing a wider variety of local community activities.
- It is important to note that all students will become 18 during the following school year (Year 13), some as early as September, and lots of their regular activities, clubs and respite will stop at this point. Parents should start looking ahead to find suitable adult activities/ clubs/ adult respite or supported living during Year 12. Some applications for clubs need to be made 6 months prior to joining to allow for assessments etc.

Action points for parents/carers –Year 12:

- Continue to attend transition events and meetings.
- Re-visit colleges as courses can change and start to come up with a list of preferences.
- Make sure the transition team know that your son /daughter will soon be turning 18 in the next year.
- Put young person's name on the housing register – even if you are not looking for supported living immediately.
- Start looking for suitable new activities, clubs, adult respite or supported living – see section 13.
- Re – apply for year 13 transport.

Year 13: (Students aged 17-18)

- All young people will have an assessment by the Transition team – this is usually about 2 months before their 18th birthday.
- School will arrange 1:1 meetings with the transition team as required.
- School and parents will work with the students to prepare them for transition into different adult services.
- Supported Living placements can commence at 18 while the students are still attending school.
- Students can leave school at the end of year 13 if a suitable college placement or adult provision is found that may not still be available a year later.

Action points for parents/carers – Year 13:

- Continue to attend transition events and meetings.
- The year 13 review is a transition review and it is advisable to have a good idea of the plan for post Woodlands provision by then.
- Find out how to apply for places at the different providers and note any deadlines.
- Contact the transition team if you have not had an assessment 2 months before your son/daughter's 18th birthday.
- Seek independent advice about changes to benefits when the young person becomes an adult.
- For students with complex medical needs, complete a Continuing Healthcare Assessment.
- Re-apply for year 14 transport.

Year 14: (Students aged 18-19)

- **By the time students start Year 14, parents should have a clear idea of what post 19 provision is sought so that plans can be finalised.**
- **EHCP reviews will be held by the end of November.**
- **Applications for colleges/social care providers are submitted.**
- **Assessments for colleges will begin in October/November.**
- **Once a place and funding is confirmed, school will liaise with the providers to arrange transition visits/taster days supported by school staff to ensure a smooth and successful transition and that essential information is handed over.**
- **School and parents will work together to create a communication passport that students can take with them to their post 19 provision to aid a smooth transition.**
- **For students who are moving to a social care provision with no full time college placement, their EHCP will cease.**
- **Students will have their ASDAN personal progress units accredited and parents will be invited to an awards ceremony.**

Action points for parents/carers - Year 14:

- **Continue to attend transition events and meetings.**
- **Submit applications for colleges and social care providers.**
- **Come to the Year 14 EHCP review with a clear plan in mind either for college or social care.**
- **Contact your Transition team case worker regularly to keep them updated on what provision you require.**
- **Apply for college transport via the same process as for post 16 transport but select '19-25'.**

5. Local sector colleges

- Most local colleges offer a life skills course with opportunities for supported work experience.
- Application processes vary between the different colleges – so it is important for parents to find out the application deadlines/ procedures for the colleges they are interested in.

| College | Contact details | Summary of services provided. |
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| Brinsbury College campus (Part of Chichester college) | https://brinsbury.ac.uk info@chichester.ac.uk 01243 786321 Pulborough | Mainstream college with a supported learning department on the campus. A range of SEND Foundation programmes. |
| Brooklands Technical College | www.brooklands.ac.uk/courses/supported-learning-and-transition ALS@brooklands.ac.uk 01932 979700 Weybridge | Mainstream college with a supported learning department. Entry 2 to level 1 courses. |
| East Surrey College | www.esc.ac.uk clientservices@esc.ac.uk 01737 788444 Redhill | Life Skills – SEND programme with a variety of courses promoting inclusion and personal development from Entry level 1 to level 3. |
| Merrist Wood – Woodlands centre. Part of Activate Learning | www.merristwood.activatelearning.ac.uk www.activatelearning.ac.uk 0800 612 6008 01483 448556 Worplesden (Guildford) | Mainstream college with a safe and secure ‘Supported Learning Centre’. Curriculum focussing on developing life and independence skills through to preparation for work. 4 days per week 9.30 – 3pm |
| Nescot | www.nescot.ac.uk Foundation Learning Dept 0208 394 1731 Epsom | Foundations course. Entry 2 to level 1. Up to 3 year course - 4 days per week (16 hours – mixed hours) |

6. Independent Colleges.

- Parents are advised to look at the Natspec colleges directory available at www.natspec.org.uk for up to date information on colleges.
- Independent colleges can be day and/or residential.
- Funding for independent colleges is usually **ONLY** agreed if a local college cannot meet the needs of a student **AND** that student clearly shows potential for further progress in education and has had very high attendance at school.
- It must also be considered that after completing courses at independent colleges, some students find it hard to transition back to their home locality and transfer the community skills they have learnt.
- Below are some of the more local independent colleges.

| PROVIDER | Contact details | Summary of services provided. |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Ambitious College | www.ambitiouscollege.org.uk shl-office@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk 020 3873 2201 South Tottenham and Isleworth | An independent specialist day college dedicated to supporting autistic young people aged 16-25. Highly personalised curriculum |
| Nash College | www.nashcollege.org.uk admin@nash.livability/org.uk 0208 315 4800 Bromley, Kent | Different curriculum models for ASD, SLD, PMLD students. Day college provision only from Sept 2019. |
| Orchard Hill | www.orchardhill.ac.uk enquiries@orchardhill.ac.uk 0345 402 0453 Several locations across South London and Surrey. | Day college offering courses for SLD, PMLD, ASD |
| Orpheus Centre | www.orpheus.org.uk enquiries@orpheus.org.uk 01883 744664 | Specialist college offering a learning programme, supported |

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| | Godstone, Surrey | <p>housing and a domiciliary home service if required.</p> <p>A curriculum with a focus on arts, performing arts and independence. There is a big focus on work experience at this college and all 3rd year students will be expected to take part in a supported internship.</p> |
| Treloar College | <p>www.treloar.org.uk/college info@treloar.org.uk 01420 547400 Alton, Hampshire</p> | Residential college offering a life and living skills curriculum for students working at pre-entry 1 to level 3. |
| Young Epilepsy (St Piers) | <p>college.youngpilepsy.org.uk education@youngpilepsy.org.uk 01342 831348 Lingfield, Surrey</p> | Day or residential college for students with autism, epilepsy and other neurological conditions or special needs. |

7. Social care/Day activity providers:

- Some social care providers have links with local colleges for part time courses.
- **Some residential providers also provide day services without the requirement to be a resident – these are listed in section 8 so please also look at these.**

| PROVIDER | Contact details | Summary of services provided. |
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| Aldag – Ashtead Learning Difficulties Action Group | www.aldag.co.uk info@aldag.co.uk Ashtead | Evening club, Supporting Employment, Café ALDAG, Gardening Project, Teens and Twenties group for younger adults. Short holidays. |
| ArtVenture | www.art-venture.co.uk manager@art-venture.co.uk 01483 304884 Based at St Peter’s School, Merrow. | Artventure is a creative day centre for adults with learning disabilities, physical impairment and autism. Weekdays during school term from 9.30am to 2.30pm. |
| Avenues | www.avenuesgroup.org.uk info@avenuesgroup.org.uk 0300 323 0405 Surrey, London, Kent | Outreach services offering support. |
| Bell’s Piece | www.leonardcheshire.org/what-we-do/disability-care-and-support/activity-and-skills-groups/bells-piece 01252 715138 Based in Farnham | An activity and skills group. Mon to Fri - 9am to 4pm |
| Cobham Link | www.elmbridge.gov.uk/css/cobham-link cobhamlink@elmbridge.gov.uk 01932 596031 Cobham | Range of day services for young adults with mild to moderate learning disabilities. |
| County care | www.countycare.co.uk info@countycare.co.uk 01483 224183 | Specialist support provider – outreach support, social & leisure activities, daytime |

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| | Community skills projects in Leatherhead, Horley and Woking | opportunities, daytrips, supported holidays. |
| Crossroads care | www.crossroadscare.surrey.co.uk enquiries@crossroadscare.surrey.co.uk 01372 869970 | Highly trained Carer Support Staff provide carer respite breaks for 3 hours per week. Clubs available. |
| Dayspace | www.dayspace.org info@millstedcare.co.uk 01883 349553 Caterham and Reigate | Day services centres with a range of activities. |
| Dramatize | www.dramatize.co.uk info@dramatize.co.uk 07912 183085 / 01784 250816 Ashford, Middlesex | Dramatize is a theatre company for individuals with learning disabilities. The day service runs 5 days a week (9-4), 50 weeks a year. 3 year Programme includes - creative skills, life skills, community visits, healthy living. |
| EnhanceAble | www.enhanceable.org 020 8547 3014 Day services based at Geneva Road, Kingston. | Day services – group activities, day trips, wellbeing therapies. 1:1 support. Respite/ short breaks. |
| Frimhurst Enterprises | www.frimhurstenterprises.org.uk frimhurstenterprises@gmail.com 07887 393924 Based near Camberley | A social enterprise offering a range of vocational activities for young adults with learning disabilities to develop independence and work related skills. |
| Grassroots | www.grassrootsproject.co.uk 01784 472005 Based in Egham | A day service offering activities in a 'hands on' environment. E.g. gardening, woodwork, cooking, day trips, sports. £30 a full day (9-4) |
| Halow | www.halowproject.org.uk 01483 447960 info@halowproject.org.uk Based in Guildford. | A registered charity providing opportunities and support for young people to access social activities, community based |

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| | | <p>learning and work like experiences.</p> <p>Halow care provides a 1:1 buddy service.</p> |
| <p>Jigsaw Plus – Centre for lifelong learning.</p> | <p>jigsawplus.co.uk 01483 277366 info@jigsawplus.co.uk Dunsfold Park, Cranleigh</p> | <p>Specialist day service for adults with Autism with a daily structure like a college – but predominately funded by a social care package.</p> <p>Up to 5 days a week provision. Work based enterprises include a café, gardenworks and artworks.</p> |
| <p>My Time</p> | <p>www.sabp.nhs.uk/mytime 01372 203164 – Epsom 01737 275985 – Reigate 0208 684 3047 - Croydon Hubs in Epsom, Reigate, Croydon, Chertsey.</p> | <p>Day services for Adults with learning disabilities including Autism.</p> |
| <p>Oak Tree Farm Care</p> | <p>www.otfcservices.co.uk 01403 732230/ 07970 822669 Copsale, Near Horsham</p> | <p>Day services for adults with learning disabilities, Autism and challenging behaviours based in a 33 acre farm. A variety of practical activities on offer including horse riding, cycling, swimming, cooking.</p> |
| <p>Parity for Disability</p> | <p>www.parityfordisability.org.uk info@parityfordisability.org.uk 01252 375581 Based in Farnborough, Mychett, Camberley.</p> | <p>At Parity adults with multiple disabilities aged 18+ continue learning, achieving and being a part of the wider community, supported by trained, caring staff. Day services.</p> |
| <p>Post 19</p> | <p>www.post19.com info@post19.com 01252 723135 Based in Farnham</p> | <p>An alternative to traditional colleges/day centres. Full or part time placements, 40 weeks per year. (9am – 4pm) as part of a life skills training programme.</p> |

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| Sans Soucie Home Care Ltd. | www.sanssouciehomecare.com 01483 233925 Based in Guildford | Day centre services, Community access, Life skills opportunities, PAs. Live in support. |
| Surrey Choices | www.surreychoices.com info@surreychoices.com 01483 806806 Various hubs across Surrey | Employability, Day Services at various hubs around Surrey, Shared Lives, Short breaks, PA service, Future Choices programme. |
| Tandridge Hill Farm | www.consensusupport.com info@concencussupport.com 0808 271 3834 Based in Godstone | Linked to Concensus services. A working farm for adults with learning difficulties and complex needs. |
| The Clubhouse Project | www.clubhouseproject.org.uk lisa@theclubhouseproject.org.uk 01932 988708 Based at St George's college, Addlestone. | A Life Skills Day Service for young adults with learning disabilities. They offer a variety of in-house and community based daytime activities and are committed to maximising personal choice and promoting independence in a kind and caring environment. Open 51 weeks a year, Mon – Fri 9am-4pm |
| The Butterfly Project | www.thebutterflyprojecthorsham.co.uk admin@thebutterflyprojecthorsham.co.uk 01403 248580 Horsham | An alternative to traditional day centres in the area. Developing community projects, creating opportunities for individuals and the wider community, providing training, activities and sessions to ensure individuals can develop work and life skills. |
| The National Autistic Society | www.autism.org.uk 01483 861600 Godalming | Day services for adults with Autism. |
| White Lodge 18 – 25 | www.whitelodgecentre.co.uk 01392 577996/ 01932 567131 | 18 – 25 transition service providing fun and social |

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| Transition centre – Rendezvous | Chertsey | activities for young adults. A range of activities on offer including swimming, gardening, cooking, art and craft, drama and music and community visits. |
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8. Social care - Residential/Housing and Supported Living

There are 3 main options when considering adult housing options.

Adult Respite: This is similar to children's respite but for over 18s. However, currently there are limited options in Surrey.

Residential Homes: These are funded by a social care package and tend to be for adults who require a higher level of need.

Supported Living: These are often small houses/flats for small groups of adults who are supported to live as independently as possible. These are funded by housing benefit applied for in the adult's name and they will have a tenancy agreement, landlord and will pay for utility bills from their other benefits/ income.

| PROVIDER | Contact details | Summary of services provided. |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Ability Housing | www.ability-housing.co.uk info@ability-housing.co.uk 01784 490410 Based 32 local authorities across the South East | Residential care Supported Living Short term supported housing Move-on housing |
| Achieve Together | www.achievetogether.co.uk info@achievetogether.co.uk 01372 364 000 Various locations incl Surrey | Supported living, Outreach and home support, Adult residential care, Day services. |
| Active Care Group | www.activecaregroup.co.uk referrals@activecaregroup.co.uk 01372 779353 Various location incl Surrey | Residential and supported living. |
| Active Prospects | www.activeprospects.org.uk info@activeprospects.org.uk 01293 825824 Based in the Reigate, Redhill, Banstead, Caterham, Horley areas | Residential services Supported Living Accommodation vacancies are updated regularly and emailed out. |

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| Alina Homecare | www.alinahomecare.com 01372 677122 Various locations in Surrey incl Leatherhead and Epsom | Supported Living Outreach Complex Care |
| Avenues | www.avenuesgroup.org.uk info@avenuesgroup.org.uk 0300 323 0405 Surrey, London, Kent | Outreach services offering support. Supported Living. |
| Boyce care | www.boycecare.co.uk info@boycecare.co.uk 01784 245817 | Provide support to adults with learning disabilities and complex needs |
| Care Opportunities Ltd | www.careopportunities.co.uk info@careopportunities.co.uk 01256 405460 Various sites in Camberley | Supported Living and residential care. |
| Cavendish Care | www.cavendishcare.com 01737 224497 Homes based in Redhill and Horley | Supported living, residential care including day services based in Crawley. |
| Chailey Heritage Futures | www.chf.org.uk/CH-futures futuresadmin@chf.org.uk futureslifeskills@chf.org.uk 01825 723723 Near Haywards Heath/ Lewes | Futures accommodation Futures life skills centre Futures hub Particularly good for PMLD |
| Choice Care Group | www.choicecaregroup.com enquiries@choicecaregroup.com 0203 195 0151 Surrey, Hampshire | Residential and supported living services for people with learning disabilities. Particularly good for Complex needs |
| Consensus Support | www.consensusupport.com enquiries@consensusupport.com 0808 223 5320 Based in Essex but with homes in Croydon, Surrey and the South East. | Residential Houses and supported living for adults with learning disabilities, autism, complex needs. A leading provider in Prader-Willi Syndrome care. |
| Dimensions | www.dimensions-uk.org 0300 303 9001 Various locations across the south east. | Personalised support services for adults with learning disabilities, autism, complex needs and challenging behaviour incl supported living/ residential care. |

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| Downing care group | www.downingcare.co.uk 01932 336200 (The Chesnuts - Byfleet) Byfleet, Farnborough and Alton | Residential services. |
| EnhanceAble | www.enhanceable.co.uk 020 8547 3014 New Malden | Adult respite service - SPACE |
| Heathcotes Group | www.heathcotes.net admin@heathcotes.net 012746 556453 Various locations across Surrey incl Sutton and Caterham | Supported Living Services. |
| Mallow Crescent | www.surreycc.gov.uk Burpham | Adult respite provider. An option for students who are at Merrist Wood. |
| Millsted Care Ltd | www.millstedcare.org info@millstedcare.co.uk 01883 349553 Based in Reigate. | A family-run company providing person-centred residential homes and day services in Surrey who specialise in working with adults with a learning disability. |
| Pathway Healthcare | www.pathwayhealthcare.co.uk 0808 164 3760 5 services in the South East including the new Livingstone House in Dorking. | Experienced in providing specialised residential care for young adults with severe learning disabilities, complex needs and associated challenging behaviour. |
| Pattom | www.pattom.co.uk 01483 443820 | Domiciliary care, Buddies, Personal assistants, Supported Living. |
| Queen Elizabeth Foundation for Disabled People | www.qef.org.uk info@qef.org.uk 01372 841100 Leatherhead | Independent living services including residential care and day services. |
| Surrey and Borders Partnership | www.sabp.nhs.uk 01372 203445 (Jasmine House) Various sites around Surrey. | Residential short breaks service (respite) for adults with learning disabilities and specialise healthcare needs. Kingscroft – Staines Jasmine House – Epsom |

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| | | Residential care homes in Epsom, Redhill and Chertsey. |
| The Grange | www.grangecentre.org.uk info@grangecentre.org.uk 01372 452608 Bookham | Residential care, supported living, skills and activities, work experience and mini enterprises. |
| Voyage Care | www.voyagecare.com referrals@voyagecare.com 0800 0353 776 Various sites around Surrey/ South East –incl The Grove in Hindhead. | Supported living, specialist residential care and day services |
| Welmede | www.welmede.org.uk enquiries@welmede.org.uk 01932 571666 07798 641586 Surrey | Day trips, Short breaks and holidays/ Supports for people with learning and physical disabilities on the journey from leaving home, school or college into the next chapter of their life. |

9. Choosing a provider - key considerations and questions to ask when visiting different providers.

Prior to visits:

- Look at the provider's website to gain the key information about their aims, what their program offers and who is it suitable for.
- Make a list of questions to ask.
- Where possible plan to take your son/daughter with you.
- Look at where is it located. Is transport provided? How long will the journey take on a normal day?
- Will you be able to meet key staff and/or observe what other service users are doing during the visit?

Colleges:

- How many days per week in college and what are the hours/holidays?
- How many years is the course and how frequently is the place/funding reviewed?
- What are the transport arrangements to/from college?
- What are the student numbers in a class/group and what is the student/staff ratio?
- What does the daily timetable look like?
- What does the curriculum offer and what subject areas are covered/available? Do students get a choice of subjects?
- How often do students access the community?
- Do you offer any residential trips?
- How does the college communicate with parents/carers?

- Are there nurses/therapists on site?
- Can you support my son/daughter's current method of communication?
- Are you able to update communication aids/high tech devices?
- How are the students prepared for transition beyond college?
- Are there any links with supported living provisions?
- Do you offer taster days/transition visits once funding is agreed?

Social care:

- What are the ages of the other clients?
- What opportunities are there to access the community?
- Do the clients have opportunities to go on holidays/short breaks?
- What is the structure of the day?
- How many people in a group and what is the staff to client ratio?
- What therapy services can you provide?
- Is there a nurse on site?
- What opportunities are there for socialising with others?
- How do you communicate with parents?
- What happens if a PA is off sick and cannot support a young person – will there be cover?
- Do you offer taster days?

Key considerations after visiting provisions:

- Was it welcoming?
- How far away is it and how will your son/daughter get there?
- Did the students/clients seem happy/motivated and engaged in their learning or activities?
- Can you see your son/daughter at this provision?
- Are the activities meaningful and age appropriate?

10a. Financial and Legal considerations.

It is important that parents seek independent advice about benefits that are available from the age of 16. **Most students will be able to claim some benefits in their own name even if their family has not had access to benefits in the past.** However, some benefits that are available at 16 can stop eligibility or affect some other ones (e.g. child benefit/ tax credits) and therefore benefits should be worked out on an individual basis and parents need to look closely at what is best for their own family situation.

Staff at Woodlands school are unable to fully advise on this.

Social workers/case workers and your local Citizens Advice bureau should be able to advise you.

Parents/ carers can apply to be an appointee to claim benefits on a young person's behalf (ideally before they are 18). There is more information about this via the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/become-appointee-for-someone-claiming-benefits>

However, some of the key benefits that your son/daughter might be eligible for at 16 are:

- PIP – Personal Independence Payment for 16+
- Universal Credit.
- 16-19 vulnerable student's bursary – applied for via school and is currently £400 per term (but students need to be in receipt of PIP and universal credit to apply for this).
- Carer's allowance – for parents/carers.

It is important to note that Pupil premium support will stop at 16.

You will receive a letter about Child Benefit when your son/daughter approaches the end of Year 11, asking if they are staying on in education etc in order for you to continue claiming it. It will ask what course/qualifications your son/daughter is studying. The qualification we work towards at Woodlands in KS5 is ASDAN Personal Progress.

Independent advice should also be sought about opening bank accounts for students as many parents have found that leaving this until a young person is 16 is often too late.

It is important for parents to note that parental responsibility ends at 18 and the 'Care Act 2014' will apply. Many parents look into deputyship/ power of attorney at this stage.

The 'Mental Capacity Act' applies from 16, so before students reach this age, parents are advised to seek independent advice about Deputyship for their son/ daughter. You can apply for deputyship for both Property/Finance and Health/Welfare but please be aware that this process can take up to a year, so starting the process early is important.

10b: Health Considerations.

When your son/ daughter turns 18 they will move to adult services for their medical care.

Students who require continence products will move from the Children's continence service to the Adult continence service. It is important to note that the product type and allocation might change at this point.

As well as ensuring that their GP carries out an annual health check, there are some new teams in Surrey that are available for support.

- **Community Teams for People with a Learning Disability (CTPLDs)**– support people with learning disabilities to understand and manage their health needs. They provide specialist health assessment, interventions and treatments for people with learning disabilities and have multi-disciplinary teams including physiotherapists, OTs, music and drama therapists and SALT.
- **Intensive Support Service for Adults with a Learning Disability** – offering support with a range of medical and therapy providers. 01372 206305
- **Learning Disability Acute Liaison Nurses** are available in acute hospitals for both acute and mental health services.
- **Primary Liaison Nurses** are also available to help navigate around the system.

Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust oversees many of these teams and is a good place to start when seeking support.

www.sabp.nhs.uk - 0300 55 55 222

11. Supporting young people through the transition process.

It is essential to promote independence wherever possible. At home, try to involve your son/daughter in household tasks where appropriate e.g. planning meals, making shopping lists, shopping trips, cooking, making beds, laundry, cleaning, gardening etc.

All upper school pupils follow the school's 'Careers Education, Information Advice and Guidance Programme' which supports their transition to their future life goals and aspirations – whether that is a college placement, supported living, an adult social care placement, a supported internship or paid work.

As part of the KS5 curriculum, students will start creating monthly photo diaries to keep a record of the activities they undertake each month. The students are encouraged to give their opinions of each activity, which helps us to build up a picture of their likes/dislikes when looking for appropriate post 19 provision for them. These diaries can be taken to college interviews/assessments for students to show what they like and are good at, as well as providing a good starting point for conversations.

Where appropriate, students in the upper school will be given opportunities to take part in residential trips e.g. High Ashurst, Flat Spaces or Skiing. This gives students the chance to spend time away from home and to increase their independence and social skills while trying new and challenging activities.

Some students will also undertake work experience placements with Surrey Choices Employability.

For some students, regular individual career guidance interviews will be arranged with an independent and impartial careers advisor from, year 11.

Most providers allow for some taster/transition days once placements and funding have been secured. School staff will accompany students on these visits to support the transition where possible.

For further information about how the school support our pupils with transition, please see the 'Careers and Transition' page of our school website (accessed via the curriculum tab).

12. Other sources of support

| PROVIDER | Contact details | Summary of services provided. |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Action for Carers | www.actionforcarers.org.uk info@actionforcarers.org.uk 01483 302748 | Support and advice for carers |
| Carer Information Update | Ask the transition team to add you to the mailing list. | A carer support worker sends out monthly emails with information about respite options/ day services. |
| Cerebra | www.cerebra.org.uk enquiries@cerebra.org.uk 01267 244200 | Offers lots of advice and factsheets, parent guides including legal and financial advice. |
| Citizens advice | www.citizensadvice.org.uk 03444 111 444 | Benefits advice |
| Family Voice Surrey | www.familyvoicesurrey.org contact@familyvoicesurrey.org 01372 705 708 | |
| MASMC | www.myadultstillmychild.co.uk | A guide for parent/carers of adults (16+) who may not be able to make decisions |
| Mencap | www.mencap.org.uk 0808 808111 | Lots of advice and support on their website for young people with disabilities and their families |
| National Careers Service | www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk 0800 100 900 | Free impartial careers advice for anyone over 13 including FE options. |
| SEND Advice Surrey | www.sendadvicesurrey.org.uk 01737 737300 | Provider of impartial, confidential and free support based on the law to empower children and young people aged 0 to 25, their parents and professionals. |
| Surrey Autism Partnership board | www.surreypb.org.uk | Lots of information about benefits, carer support, transition etc. |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Surrey disabled peoples partnership</p> | <p>www.sdpp.org.uk 01483 750973 Surreyhubs - www.thesurreyhubs.org.uk</p> | <p>Information and advocacy services</p> <p>Surreyhubs provide information and support to help people stay independent.</p> |
| <p>Surrey Independent Living Council (SILC)</p> | <p>www.surreyilc.org.uk admin@surreyilc.org.uk 01483 458111</p> | <p>Practical advice on staying safe and independent at home</p> <p>Support with budgets, bank accounts and financial management</p> <p>Support recruiting and employing care workers and personal assistants</p> |
| <p>Surrey Information point</p> | <p>www.surreyinformationpoint.org.uk mash@surreycc.gov.uk 0300 470 9100</p> | <p>Local information for young people and their families.</p> |
| <p>Together for short lives</p> | <p>www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk 0808 8088 100</p> | <p>Information and advice for parents and professionals</p> |
| <p>United Response</p> | <p>www.unitedresponse.org.uk</p> | <p>Provides a range of support services for adults and young people with learning disabilities, autism, mental health needs or physical disabilities.</p> |

13. Clubs and activities available while students are still at Woodlands.

It is a good idea for your son / daughter to join some local clubs to support them to build a social circle and for them to start seeing themselves as young adults.

| PROVIDER | Contact details | Summary of services provided. |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| ALDAG | aldag.co.uk info@aldag.co.uk Ashtead | Conquerors evening club. Teens and Twenties group for younger adults. |
| Challengers Young Adults | disability-challengers.org PlayandLeisureTeam@disability-challengers.org 01483 230 939 Epsom, Farnham, Guildford | Schemes for 18-25s Evenings, weekends and school holidays |
| Epsom and Ewell Puffins Club | www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/visitors/leisure-list/epsom-ewell-puffins-sports-club-disabled info@epsomandewellpuffins.co.uk Rainbow Leisure Centre, Epsom | Sports activities Mondays 7.30 – 9.30pm Ages 17+ |
| Freewheelers | www.freewheelerstheatre.co.uk info@freewheelerstheatre.co.uk 07599 077044 | Mondays (Term time) Junior youth theatre (Ages 13 – 18) – 16:00 – 17:30 Senior youth theatre (Ages 16 – 25) – 18:00 – 19:30 |
| Jets at White Lodge | www.whitelodgecentre.co.uk reception@whitelodgecentre.co.uk 01932 577961 Cherstey | Activities for 18 – 25s 1 st and 3 rd Saturday of every month Flexible running hours |
| Linkable | www.linkable.org.uk info@linkable.org.uk 01483 770037 Woking | Supporting young people as they prepare to transition to adult services. Various social groups and activities. No limits (18+) Next Steps (12-18_ |

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Midsurrey Mencap | www.midsurreymencap.btck.co.uk 01372 374 555 Leatherhead | Activities for young people Respite and short breaks |
| Sunnybank Trust | www.sunnybanktrust.org.uk | Swag club – a fun and vibrant social club for people aged 18 – 30ish. . |
| Ymca – East Surrey | www.ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk admin@ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk 01737 779979 Redhill | From December 2017, they are increasing their short breaks and respite services |

14. Support at Woodlands.

This pack will be updated annually and any new information about providers will be added/amended.

The updated version will be given out to parents every September.

If you have any suggestions or hear of new providers to add or if any info becomes out of date, please email me with the up to date information.

I am happy to accompany parents on visits to colleges and social care providers.

Termly transition events are organised across the county - please attend these where possible.

AILS A REA

CAREERS & TRANSITIONS LEAD AT WOODLANDS

ailsa.rea@woodlands.surrey.sch.uk

01372 377922 – Upper School site.