

Hertfordshire

FASD Support Network

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Things to think about when your child with FASD approaches 18

Your child with FASD is approaching adulthood and there does not seem to be any advice about what to do since once they are 18 e.g. support, consultants, GP's etc.

Here are the things we have noted below which may help and also some links specific to Hertfordshire or national. The processes may change over time so go to the appropriate sites for latest information.

Health

Once 18, if your child is under a Paediatrician they will refer them on to adult services appropriate to your child. With CAMHS the referral would be to the Hertfordshire Single Point of Access [Hertfordshire Partnership](#) (Community Mental Healthcare team).

From a GP point of view they are now an adult and they are the contact point. Contact the GP and ask to be nominated carers for your son/daughter. Also ensure that you are able to get access to their prescriptions and medication.

Emergency Services Assistance in Hertfordshire – Pegasus

The Hertfordshire Police has the Pegasus scheme for people who find it hard to communicate with them. A card can be requested and applied for through the [Pegasus card scheme | Hertfordshire Constabulary](#) web page. This card can be shown to a police officer, member of police staff or other emergency services staff if you need assistance in person and they'll know you may need extra help and support and the support of an appropriate adult.

Hertfordshire Step2Skills – training and employment support

Step2Skills provide adult education services and employment support services. Part of the service is also to advise and support on checking benefits like PIP are being accessed.

Help with employment involves being linked to a Step2Skills employment advisor who will help with CV, identifying what work you are capable of and then researching and identifying appropriate jobs. They will also provide support at interview, discussing with the employer and asking for appropriate adjustments at work.

Go to [Step2Skills Home](#) for my information.

Sunflower Lanyard (National FASD)

National FASD supports the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lanyard scheme which is an 'initiative designed to act as a discreet sign that somebody has a hidden disability and requires additional assistance while out in public'. The lanyard can be ordered from National FASD here - [FASD Lanyards - National FASD](#).

Access Card – Communicating your access requirements

The Access card is a photo ID card with visible impairment symbols on the card translating to the problems the person has like Standing and Queueing, Urgent Toilet Needs Visual Information for example. See the [Access Card: Making access easy](#) web page and businesses which support the access card.

Benefits

Personal Independence Payment PIP (replaces DLA)

Personal independence payment (PIP) is a benefit for people who have difficulty with daily living activities or mobility. It requires registering an application with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). See the [PIP - guide to completing PIP claim form](#) on the Hertfordshire site.

Another good site to look at is [PIP-guide.pdf](#) on the Contact site (for families with disabled children

Universal Credit and Capability for Work

If your child is no longer at school and unemployed he will need to sign on to get Universal Credit. Going to the job centre can be very, very difficult for children with FASD so it's recommended to highlight FASD/Autism/ADHD and additional needs with the job centre. They will then do a Capability for Work Assessment which is similar, but not the same, as the PIP form. You should ask to be part of any interview with your child.

See the [Unfit for work - ESA and universal credit](#) leaflet on the Hertfordshire site.

This may lead to an award of 'Limited Capability for Work and Work Related Activity (LCWRA)'. This provides some additional monetary benefit, and they do not have to do work related activities like look for work and go to the job centre.

An award of 'Limited Capability for Work (LCW)' means you do have to look for work, but it is a reduced activity.

This site has advice on ESA - [Employment and Support Allowance \(ESA\) eligibility | Advicenow](#)

https://www.benefitsandwork.co.uk/images/resources/esa_uc_sample-pages.pdf

Life Planning

Your Will

This needs to be up to date so it is clear who will be executors and help your child in the event of any issues. The inheritance and how this is managed needs to be carefully thought out since it is unlikely the child with FASD can handle all the tasks associated with a will and inheritance.

Crisis Care Plan

What happens if a child with FASD parents is in an accident or incapacitated. Is there a plan for the child on who to contact and someone who is willing to support them.