

STAYING PUT



Information for
Young People



Leicester
City Council

WHAT IS STAYING PUT?

Staying Put is an arrangement designed to ensure you can continue living with your current carer(s) even after your 18th birthday.

WHAT ARE THE REVIEWING ARRANGEMENTS FOR STAYING PUT?

Education – You are in education and wish to remain with your foster carer in order for you to complete your current education or training course.

Vulnerability – You are not quite ready to move out from your current carer's home, due to your assessed vulnerability. How long you stay with your carer will depend on the progress that you have made towards moving on; which will be discussed in your Pathway Plan/Review meetings.

Planned Move-on – You require a short period of time to remain living with your current carer, because you are actively bidding for your own independent accommodation.

Disability – You will have met the eligibility criteria for Adult Services involvement. You and your carer(s) will have been approved under the Shared Lives Scheme.

WHY WOULD I WANT TO BE PART OF STAYING PUT?

- It gives you the chance to develop your life/independence skills further in an environment which is comfortable to you.
- It allows you flexibility to complete any undergoing education/training course.
- If you are currently bidding for a Local Authority Tenancy, it gives you the chance to secure a tenancy before you leave your current home.
- To ensure that you don't leave home before you are ready to move into greater independence.

HOW DO I GO ABOUT JOINING STAYING PUT?

Firstly, you should have a discussion with your Social Worker, or your Personal Advisor to gain a better insight into Staying Put. When completing your Pathway Assessment and Initial Pathway Plan, you should mention your interest in Staying Put; this means that you can work with your Social Worker and Personal Advisor to develop an action plan for moving forward into Staying Put.

You should aim to have a clear action plan by your 17th birthday; this will then be added to your Pathway Review.

After this a Professionals meeting will be arranged. This is a meeting attended by your Social Worker, your Carer and a Supervising Social Worker. If you are in an Independent Fostering Agency placement, the meeting will also involve someone from the from the Placement Commissioning Team. During this meeting various aspects of your Staying Put arrangement will be discussed in-detail, to ensure that everyone involved has a clear understanding of what will happen.

WHAT ABOUT MY CARER(S), WILL THEY GET SUPPORT?

Your Carers will be involved at every stage of the preparation process. As mentioned above, they will be invited to attend various meetings to discuss possible arrangements and they can always contact the 16+ team for further advice.

Your Carers will also be entitled to financial support when you come on to the scheme. This includes: a regular support payment from the Children's Services, housing benefit payments and a contribution from yourself.

SO WILL I CONTINUE TO GET SUPPORT FROM MY WORKER IF I TAKE PART IN STAYING PUT?

You will still receive support from your Worker, and your Staying Put arrangements will be reviewed every 6 months at your Pathway Planning meeting anyway, so there is no need to worry.

I WOULD LIKE TO READ MORE ABOUT STAYING PUT, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

If you require any more information, or a full copy of the policy and guidance material please follow the link below:

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/adoption-and-fostering/looked-after-children/leaving-care-support>

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