



Keep In Touch 21-24 and 25 Plus Derbyshire Leaving Care Service

We always want to be here for you and support you, but it may look a little different once you turn 21. After 25, you won't have a worker, but we still want you to Keep in touch.

Keep in Touch aged 21-24:

We will be there for you but by the time you are 21 years old, we hope you feel ready to reduce your support from us. By this point you should be in stable accommodation, have the right services in place, access to community resources, such as your GP and generally be managing independent life well. However, if you aren't ready, we will review and agree the best service for you.

Six months before your 21st birthday your leaving care worker will talk to you about the possible changes in support after your 21st birthday. You will both identify any areas of support you require on your approach to your birthday to ensure that you are ready to not have an allocated Leaving Care Worker.

This will include looking at:

- What is happening life in your life now.
- How your health is and whether you need any additional services in place.
- Whether you have a safe place to live and whether you can stay there long term.
- Your education and employment situation and if you need any extra support to support your aspirations.
- Your social support networks. It is important to us that you have people to turn to, to celebrate with and spend time with.

At 21, you do not **CLOSE** to the service.

If it is agreed by you, your worker and manager that you can manage without the same levels of support you had when you were under 21, your Leaving Care Worker will celebrate your 21st birthday with you, explain to you how often we will contact you and put a summary on your record about your progress, achievements and future needs.

As a minimum after 21, we will contact you at the very least once a year to catch up and see how your home and education life is going, which we will keep track of. You will also still be welcome at either of our hubs and will still be able to come to any events or groups that we put on.



We never give up on our young people. 'A service that replicates the support our peers receive from their families'. We prepare young people for adulthood and provide support when it's needed.

However, whilst things may change when you're 21, should you need additional support between 21-24, we will provide you with this. We encourage you, your family or friends, and any other agency working with you to contact us when you or they think you might need a bit extra support. We will consider at every contact we have with you the level of support you may need including general advice and guidance or more in-depth support for a period of time. This would include a Pathway Plan if you agree.

It is important to us that you keep stable relationships, so your last worker can become your point of contact in the service. They will be your key person and you are welcome to call, message or email them at any time. We take a family approach in the service and should your key worker not be available, anyone one of us will help you.

You can contact us on the **freephone** numbers, which are **tel: 08081 961750** The Pod and **tel: 08081 961751** Ilkeston.

You can also **email** us on CSLeavingCare.Service@derbyshire.gov.uk

We encourage you to pop into our hub spaces and the addresses are:

Chesterfield and High Peak Team and North East and Amber Valley Team:

The Pod: 33 Hunloke Avenue, Chesterfield, S40 2NT

South Derbyshire and Erewash Team:

46-47 'The Grove', Blooms Grove Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, DE7 8DQ

Keep In Touch Higher Education 21-24

If you are in Higher Education (HE), such as University, we are more involved with you until you finish your course. It is expected that you and your key worker agree a frequency of contact throughout the year and your key worker will make sure this is agreed by their manager. This is normally every 12 weeks.

It is really important to us that you succeed in your studies, and we would want to know if you were struggling, so that we could help to resolve any issues with you.

You are still supported by Virtual school until you have finished your course. They will support you in ensuring all the financial documentation is completed and that you have everything in place to complete your studies. You will still require a Pathway Plan review every 6 months.

For further information please see Derbyshire's Website: Education, Employment and Training Section.

Keep in Touch aged 25+



We never give up on our young people. 'A service that replicates the support our peers receive from their families'. We prepare young people for adulthood and provide support when it's needed.

Although you will not be formally involved with the Leaving Care Service, we are a little different to other services and you are encouraged and welcomed to make contact with us for as long as you want too.

Many of our older care leavers keep in touch with their previous workers and enjoy updating them on the changes in their life as they move further into adulthood. If you experience a crisis and you do not know where to turn to you can give us a call and we will signpost you to the right services.

If you want general advice, you are welcome to contact us or pop in to one of our young person's spaces (see above) and we will help.

We never give up on our young people and that doesn't change just because you turn 25.



We never give up on our young people. 'A service that replicates the support our peers receive from their families'. We prepare young people for adulthood and provide support when it's needed.