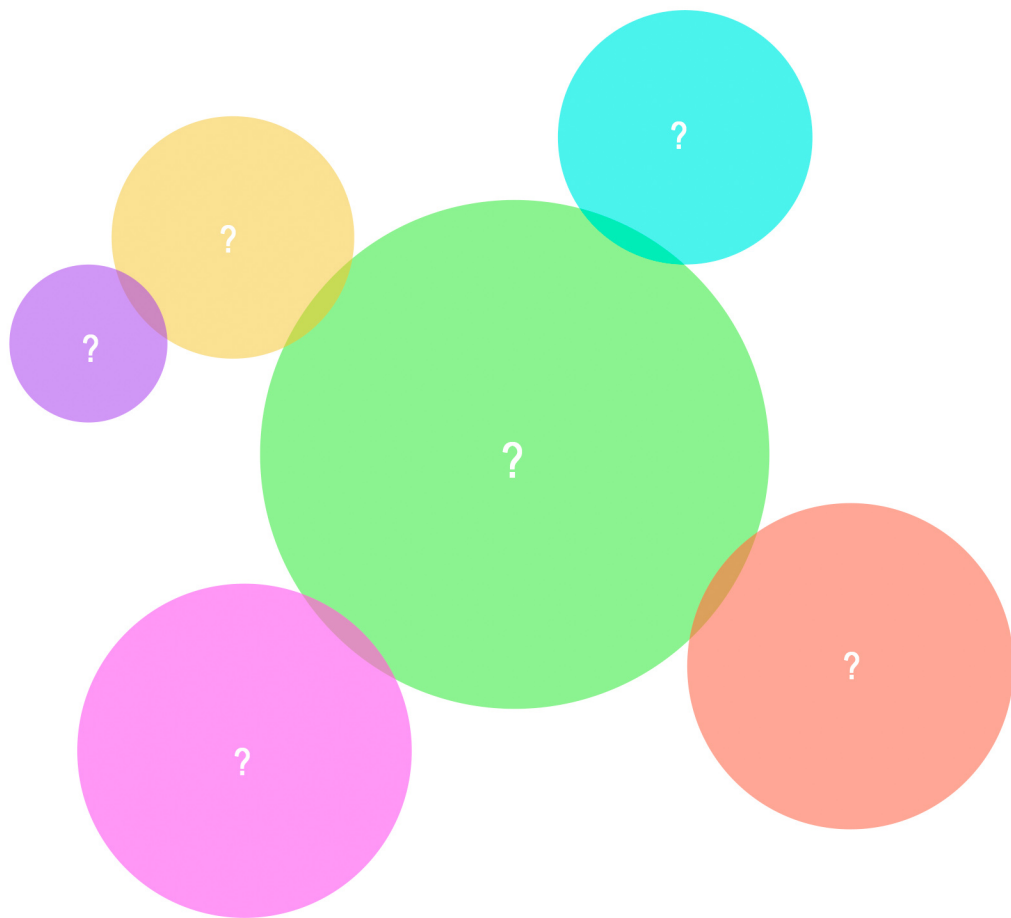
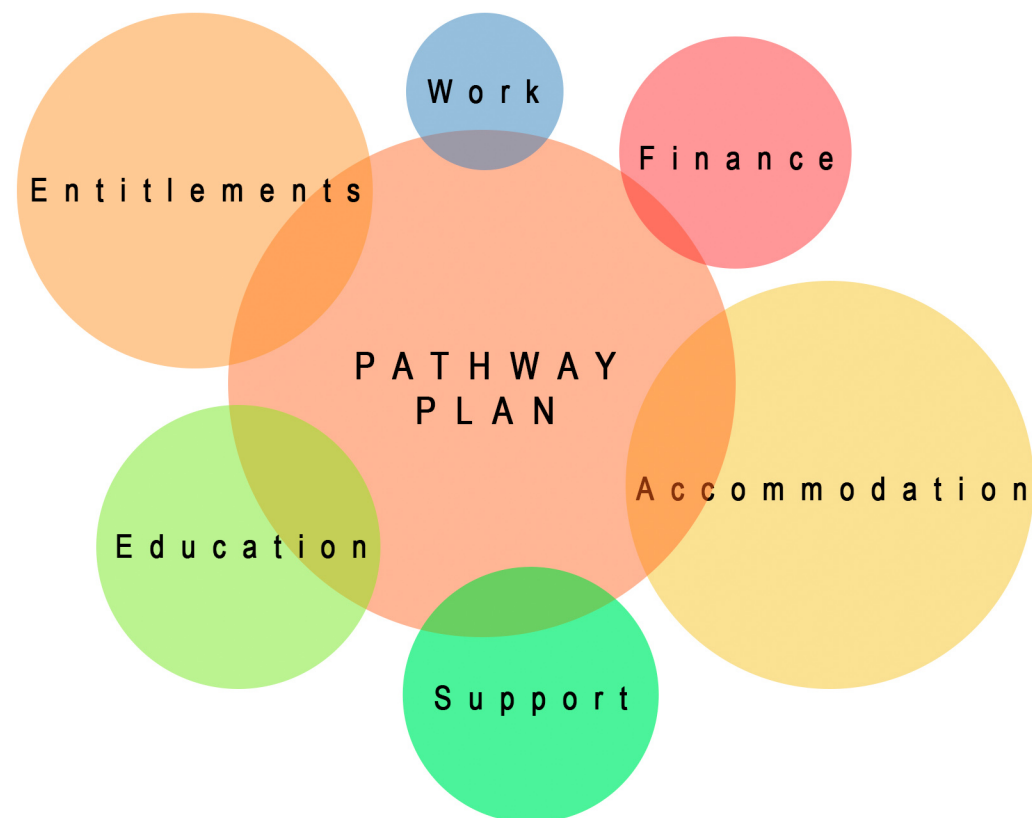


Your own plan?  
fill out the bubbles...



Support Through Care Team  
Children's Services  
8 Lavender Street  
Brighton  
BN2 1JU  
Telephone: 01273 295400  
Email: [Supportthroughcare@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Supportthroughcare@brighton-hove.gov.uk)



care  
leaver  
factsheet

Support &  
Entitlements

Support Through Care Team



**This factsheet explains the support and entitlements you can expect:**

depending upon how long you have been in care and how old you are.

It's important to know that although we talk about 'leaving care' and 'care leavers', support continues up to 21 and in some cases, beyond.

If you have any questions about this fact sheet talk to your Social Worker or Personal Adviser.

### **Are you 16 or 17? (START)**

Were you in care on or after your 16<sup>th</sup> Birthday?

**Yes**

Since your 14<sup>th</sup> Birthday have you been in care for more than 13 weeks?

**Yes**

Are you still in care?

**Yes**

**"Eligible  
Young  
Person"**

**No**

**"Relevant  
Young  
Person"**

**Yes** As an "Eligible Young Person" you have:

- Your own Social Worker or Personal Adviser.
- A suitable, safe and comfortable place to live (foster care, children's home, supported lodgings).
- A Pathway Plan (it's your proof of what support has been agreed so it's important that you are involved in completing it).
- Support with finance, further education, training and employment (all details in our 'Financial Support' leaflet).

**No**

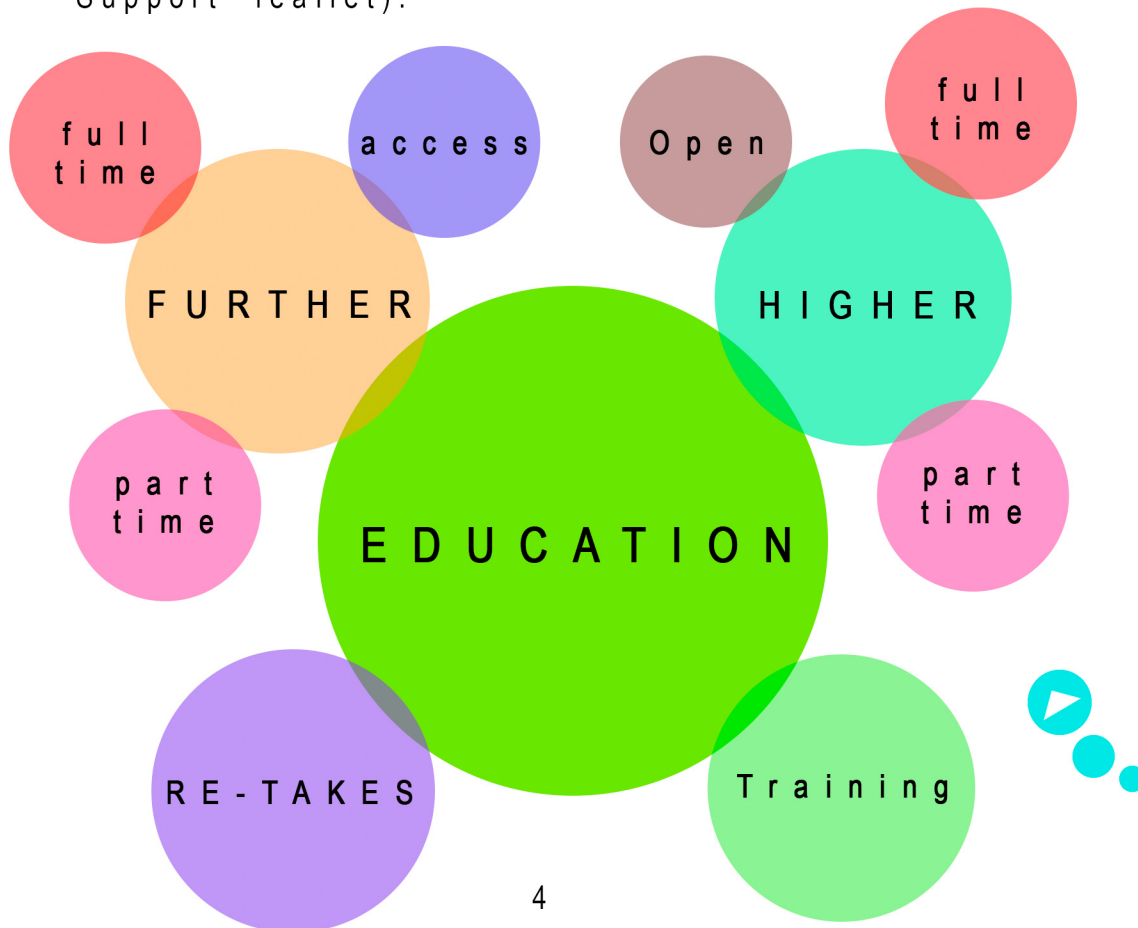
As a "Relevant Young Person" you have the same support as an "Eligible Young Person" but there are **2 differences**:

- You will not be living in foster care or a children's home but somewhere suitable, safe and which meets your needs. In most cases this means back living with your family.
- You will receive a weekly living allowance as you can't claim benefits if you are in education or looking for.

## Are you 18 to 21?

If you were “Eligible” or “Relevant” at 16 or 17, you are a “Former Relevant Young Person” and you will:

- Continue to have a Social Worker or Personal Adviser with regular contact.
- Continue with your Pathway Plan, reviewed every 6 months.
- Have financial help with costs associated with education, training and employment, including work experience and work placements, apprenticeships and volunteering. (all details in our “Financial Support” leaflet).



When you are 18 you have options about where you live.

- ‘Staying Put’ enables a young person to remain with their foster carers after they turn 18 up to the age of 21 when it is agreed by all parties.
- Young people’s hostels like the YMCA, Foyer or Stopover (application needed 4 months ahead of time).
- When agreed with your Social Worker or Personal Adviser that you are ready, you can be put on the “Brighton & Hove Housing Register” You can then bid for your own council or private rented flat under “Choice Based Lettings”.
- If you live away from Brighton or Hove and prefer a private rented flat, discuss the advantages and disadvantages with your Social Worker or Personal Adviser.
- In Further Education (college) your accommodation is covered by Housing Benefit.
- In Higher Education (university) your accommodation is paid for by Children’s Services.
- Your Setting Up Allowance can be used to furnish and equip where you live.

Use the bubbles to have a look at what choices you have for education

## Are you over 21?

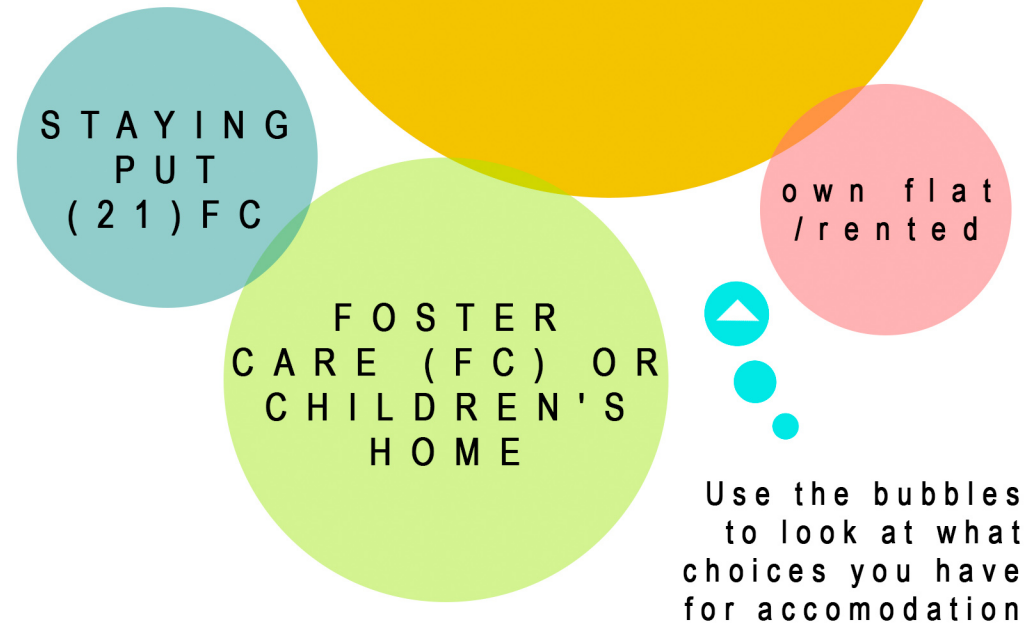
If our contact with you came to an end when you reached 21, you may be entitled to support up to the age of 25 to help you start a new programme of education or training.

(see "Post-21 Education & Training Support" leaflet)

Use the bubbles to have a look at what choices you have for work



## ACCOMMODATION



Use the bubbles to look at what choices you have for accommodation

## Having a Voice

Lastly, we want to hear your views and encourage you to say honestly what you think about everything we do and provide, what we could do better and what we do well.

See also "The 16+ and Leaving Care Pledge"