



Patients with Additional Needs

Transition at Dorset County Hospital

Transition is when a young person moves from Children's Services to Adult Services.



What this means if you need to come into Dorset County Hospital
Up until you are 18 you will have been seen by a specialist children's doctor (**paediatrician**).

When you reach **18** you will be seen in an adult clinic and if you need to come into hospital you will be come in to an **adult ward**.



Reasonable Adjustments

This means hospital staff may need to **change the way they work** to support you to get the care you need:

Things like:

- A longer appointment at a time best for you
- Information that is easy to understand



Flagging

This means that an **'alert'** can be added to your record to say you have a learning disability.

Hospital staff will know they need to make changes to meet your needs

If you would like a flag adding, **please let staff know**.



This Is Me: My Care Passport

This gives hospital staff important information about you.

You need to show it to staff when you come in for appointment.

You can get a blank copy by **downloading it** from the hospital website [here](#).



Time

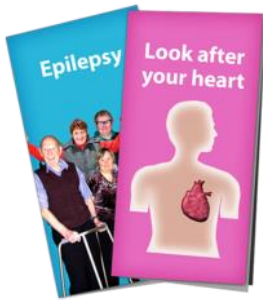
You can ask for a time that makes the appointment easier for you.

You can ask for **longer** appointment time. This will give you time to communicate, understand information and have the **support** you need to **make decisions**.



Some people arrange to visit the department a few days before so they **know what to expect**.

This can help it seem **less scary**



Information

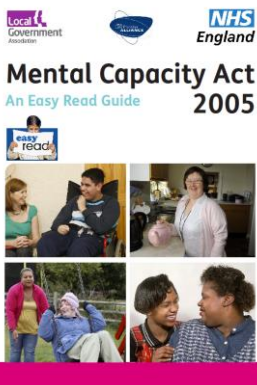
If you need information about the hospital or your condition you can ask for **'Easy Read'** information. There is some easy information on the hospital website.



Making Decisions about your Health

When you are an **adult** you will be able to make decisions about your care and treatment.

Sometimes the **decisions are difficult** and you may find it **hard to understand** the information, even when explained in an easy way.



The Mental Capacity Act

This tells health and social care staff that they have to **do everything they can** to help you understand the decision that needs to be made. If you are still unable to understand then this may mean that you **'lack capacity'** to make that decision.

When this happens the doctor has to make the decision in your **'best interests'**. This means they have to talk to people who are important to you and who know you well to help make the decision.



We hope you found this leaflet helpful.

For further advice and information please contact the Patient Experience Team on **0800 7838058** or via pals@dchft.nhs.uk



Useful Websites

[Dorset County Hospital](#)

[Dorset Mental Capacity Act Team](#)

About this leaflet:

Author(s): Jo Findlay Learning Disability and Mental Capacity Act Advisor
Written: August 2020
Approved: August 2020
Review date: 2023
Edition: V1

If you have feedback regarding the accuracy of the information contained in this leaflet, or if you would like a list of references used to develop this leaflet, please email pals@dchft.nhs.uk



INTEGRITY | RESPECT | TEAMWORK | EXCELLENCE

© 2020 Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Williams Avenue, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 2JY
www.dchft.nhs.uk