

For further information contact  
the Leaving Care Team:

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Central House  
Gladstone Street  
Darlington  
DL3 6JX Tel: 01325 346200

If you need help from Darlington Children's Services in  
an emergency after normal office opening hours  
contact the **Emergency Duty Team on 0870 2402994**

## Translations

This document will be made available on request  
to Children's Services in Braille, large print, and  
on audio cassette, also available in other  
languages. Telephone 01325 388979



**BRaille**  
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### Bengali

যদি আপনার ইংরেজী ছাড়া অন্য কোন ভাষায় এই প্রকাশনাটির দরকার থাকে, তাহলে **01325 388979**  
নম্বরে ফোন করুন এবং সূত্র নম্বর উল্লেখ করুন।

### Cantonese

如果你需要其它語言的版本，請與以下電話聯係並報出參考號碼：**01325 388979**

### Punjabi

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਤੋਂ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ  
ਸਾਨੂੰ ਨੰਬਰ **01325 388979** ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਰੈਫਰੈਂਸ (ਹਵਾਲਾ) ਨੰਬਰ ਦੱਸੋ।

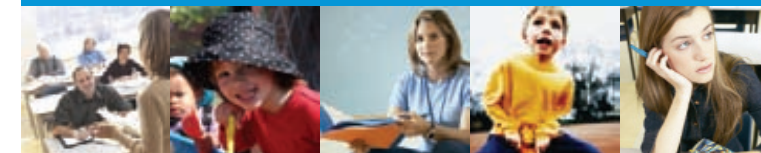
### Polish

Jeśli chciał(a)by Pan(i) otrzymać polską wersję językową tego dokumentu, proszę zadzwonić  
pod numer **01325 388979** i podać numer identyfikacyjny dokumentu.

# Children Leaving Care Act 2000

Financial Support  
for Young People

সরকারী হেফাজত ত্যাগী শিশু আইন 2000 – যুবক যুবতীদের জন্য আর্থিক সাহায্য  
兒童離開照顧機構法 2000 (Children Leaving Care Act 2000) —— 給青少年提供財務支援  
विश्वविद्यालय विधिया विधिया 2000 - मदत लेवा लई आवाबिस सदासिदा  
Ustawa o dzieciach opuszczających placówkę opiekuńczą z 2000 r. – Pomoc finansowa dla młodzieży



## Finance

The Children (Leaving Care) Act changes the way that **relevant young people** (see leaflet Ch20a) are supported.

From 1st October 2001 **relevant young people** will receive their income and accommodation support from the local authority. This means (with a few exceptions) that relevant young people will not be eligible for welfare benefits (Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance or Housing Benefit).

The local authority will be responsible for ensuring that the young person is able to live in suitable accommodation and for meeting the young person's income needs. The level of income payment for relevant young people will be based on the rate for income support for 18 year olds. This will be the minimum income any relevant young person will get and it cannot be sanctioned.

The Act also expects that pathway plans will contain clear statements about how **eligible, relevant and former relevant young people** will be financially supported to achieve their goals.

### Such support may include:

- Help with costs of education or training
- Help with employment related costs
- Help with travel costs to and from education, training employment
- Help with health costs
- Help with special clothing and/or equipment
- Help to develop and continue leisure interests
- Help to set up home
- Help to maintain accommodation
- Help to maintain contact with family and significant adults.

Every young person will have his/her individual circumstances and needs. This will mean that he/she will have individual needs for financial and other support. The levels at which support is given will be discussed by the young person and the personal adviser and then set by the Leaving Care Team.

Major changes to financial support will be the subject of a review.

## Levels of Support

**Accommodation** - The amount the Council will be prepared to pay for accommodation will depend on the needs of the young person and the type of accommodation the young person is moving in to.

**Income Maintenance** - This payment will be based on the level of Income Support in force at the time.

### Incentives

1. If you gain employment, Children's Services will continue to pay for your rent for the first month of your employment.
2. If you gain a place on a Training Scheme, Children's Services will top up your Training Allowance to the Income Support level and give you an additional £10 if you attend for 80% of the time.
3. If you stay on at school or start a non-advanced course at college you will receive the Income Support rate plus the £10 incentive. If your course continues beyond your 18th birthday you will receive the incentive until the course ends. This incentive will not be available to you if your course starts after your 18th birthday.

### Support in Education and Training

1. Special equipment - if your course requires you to provide special equipment or clothing, the costs should be spelled out in your pathway plan and should be met by Children's Services.
2. Other costs, for example fees, field and residential trips and travel expenses should also be spelled out in your pathway plan and met by Children's Services.
3. If you go to university, you will be expected to take out a student loan. If you complete your course in full, Children's Services will pay a proportion of the final total of the loan.
4. If you have to go away to study, details of your accommodation while away and during vacations, will be spelled out in your pathway plan. Accommodation costs, based on the mid-range of suitable properties in the

local area, will be met and income maintenance needs will be met where necessary. You will be encouraged to take some part-time employment to help support yourself.

**Support in Employment** - support that might be offered includes:

- Help with smart clothes for interviews
- Fares to get to interviews
- Special clothing or footwear required by your employer
- Driving lessons
- Help with transport costs during the first month of employment
- Help with special needs/health issues

**Support in Setting up Home** - When you set up home you may be able to get financial help with the following:

- Carpets/floor coverings and curtains
- Cooker/fridge/washing machine
- Furniture
- TV/toaster/kettle/iron/vacuum cleaner
- TV Licence
- Bathroom items
- Cleaning items and materials
- Bedding and linen
- Cooking utensils
- Cutlery and crockery
- Decorating materials
- Up to £1500

The actual help you will get will be detailed in your pathway plan.

Support with contact - You may be entitled to receive help to stay in touch with family and other significant people.

Support with Leisure Facilities - If you have a particular interest or hobby you may be entitled to support to pursue it.

There may be other things that you need help with. Your pathway plan is the place to determine what they are and the help you can get.