



NICCY

northern ireland commissioner
for children and young people

Making transition easier for young people with a learning disability



Transition is when a young person leaves school and starts being treated as an adult.



About us

We are called **NICCY**. The person in charge of NICCY is called Patricia Lewsley-Mooney.



NICCY works with the government.



The government is the group of people who run the country.



We tell the government how to make life better for children and young people in Northern Ireland.



We want to tell the government how to make **transition** better for young people with a learning disability.



You can find out more about **transition** on the next page.



Transition

Transition is when a young person leaves school and starts being treated as an adult.

Lots of things change at transition.



Young people may do things like

- go to college

- do training



- get a job



- go to a day centre

- get a new social worker or doctor



- get help to live by themselves.

Transition



We wanted to find out more about transition for young people with a learning disability.



We wanted to find out what the government could do to make the changes easier for young people.

What we did

We asked a group called **Queen's University Belfast** to find out more about transition for us.

They did this by



- looking at what the government is doing to help young people



- talking to young people with a learning disability and their parents and teachers



- reading lots of books about transition.

What they found out



They found that some young people find transition hard.

Some young people have problems with things like



- leaving school at 16 when they don't want to
- not being able to do a course they want to do



- not being able to do things in the day with other young people



- not getting help to live by themselves
- not getting a say about their lives.



Some young people and their families worry about the changes that happen at transition.

What the government needs to do



The government is trying to make these changes easier for young people with a learning disability.

But there is a lot more work to do.

The government needs to



- get everyone who supports young people to work better together, like teachers, doctors and social workers



- give parents and young people better information about transition



- listen to young people and their parents about what they want to do when they leave school



- make sure young people from all over Northern Ireland get treated the same.



What next

We have put what we found out into a report.



We are going to give the report to the government.



We are going to talk to the government about how it can make things better for young people with a learning disability.



We will make sure the government makes changes to make transition easier for young people.

Find out more

We have written a bigger report about transition.
You can find out more about this and what we do by



Calling us on **028 9031 1616**



Sending an email to **info@niccy.org**



Sending us a letter to
NICCY
Equality House
7-9 Shaftesbury Square
Belfast
BT2 7DY



Using the minicom on **028 9031 6393**



Visiting our website at **www.niccy.org**

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