

Transitions Questionnaire Analysis

Parents of the eleven young people that left Fountaindale in the 2017-2018 academic year were contacted so that they could provide feedback on their experience of transition to another setting.

Five of the children moved to Portland College, one moved to Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies, two moved to National Star College, one went to the RNIB College in Loughborough, one went to Every Sensation and one is undertaking an apprenticeship with Strongbones Children's Charitable Trust.

Four parents/carers provided feedback.

- All agreed that they had attended their child's last EHC plan conversion or review
- 75% agreed that they had received impartial transition information, advice and guidance from Education, Health and Social Care, whilst 25% felt that they had not.
- 50% agreed that Fountaindale liaised with their child's new service(s) around transition, 25% did not know if they had and 25% said that it was not applicable.

What Worked

Everyone that provided feedback expressed their opinion that their child was enjoying their new placement.

Families enlisting the support of other agencies and fighting for a better offer for their children and rejecting initial placement offers if this was not in the best interests of their child.

What Didn't Work

One family expressed their concern that the current further education provision on offer does not interest children and young people and that some young people will choose a further education provider based on their health needs rather than their chosen future career.

Some families expressed dissatisfaction with Social Care services due to staff absence and turnover.

All families contacted felt that it was an extremely stressful and worrying time trying to find out about the available options, make decisions for their child's future and waiting for funding for placements and transport to be agreed, often at a very late stage.

Even Better If

College places were confirmed and funding was in place well before the end of the school term so that families could make plans, book transport, ensure staff were trained.

A Social Care Transitions Worker had been in place from age 16.

Meetings had taken place with parents and pupils who had been through the process.

More input and guidance from school staff as to outcomes, plans and knowing what is available.

Actions

A named member of staff is now in place to provide more personalised support and information to parents and carers about the options available to pupils when they leave school.

Agencies concerned with transition are invited to Parents' Evenings/Mornings.

Fountaindale will host a Parent Coffee Morning with a transition focus to enable parents/carers to exchange thoughts and ideas.

December 2018