

Transitions Strategy

Salford City Council 2025-2030

Young people and their families have a smooth, timely and clear transition from children's services into adult services. They are supported and empowered in their journey towards adult life, helping them reach their full potential.



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Background:

Transition is the process of moving from children's services to adult services, including health, social care, and education. This usually takes place between the ages of 14 and 25 years.

Every young person's journey from children's to adult services is unique. The timing and level of support needed will depend on their individual circumstances and the care they require. It is important to ensure **flexibility and continuous care** during these transitions to make the process as smooth as possible.



However, transitions often take place separately across services. This means young people and their families may need to engage with different agencies and professional's multiple times, often retelling their story each time.

Through feedback and research, we recognise the need to clarify and simplify the process for everyone. We also need to be clear about roles and responsibilities so that both staff and families understand who is responsible at different stages.

What is our vision?



Young people and their families have a smooth, timely and clear transition from children's services into adult services. They are supported and empowered in their journey towards adult life, helping them reach their full potential.

Salford's Transitions Strategy recognises these challenges and is committed to creating clear and effective pathways between agencies to help achieve the best outcomes for young people and their families. We have updated our policy to reflect the current process for staff, and we will use this strategy to plan more effectively for future needs. Most importantly, we aim to make the process as clear as possible and base it on a set of key principles.

Preparation for Adult Life

Preparation for Adult Life (PFA) ([strategy link here](#)) is linked to Transition.

It is the processes and practices aimed at helping CYP with SEND transition smoothly from childhood into adult life. PFA happens in all phases of education, for example school readiness in early years and the PSHE curriculum in primary and secondary schools.

The goal is to ensure that they are equipped with the skills, knowledge and confidence to lead fulfilling, independent lives; similar to our Transitions Policy.

The Pillars

Independent living

Good health

**Friends, relationships and
community**

**Further education and
employment**

We want
children and
families to feel
heard and
understood

What is an effective transition?

In line with NICE Guidelines and through local feedback we know that the transition process should be based on the following principles:

- 1. Planning Early:** Transition discussions should begin early, ensuring there's sufficient time to discuss future needs, preferences, and services available.
- 2. Person-Centred and Family Involvement:** Transition should be driven by the needs and aspirations of the individual, involving their families and carers in planning and decision-making.
- 3. Transition is everyone's responsibility:** Planning and support is every professional's responsibility
- 4. Holistic Assessments:** A holistic approach to transition, ensuring that health, social care, education, and emotional needs are all considered.
- 5. Continuity of Care:** If eligible; aiming to ensure there is no interruption in services or care as the young person moves from children's to adult services. Families have good access to information to support understanding of the difference between children's and adults services.



Our Salford Pledge

Transitions is everyone's business. In Salford, our services have committed to the following different roles and responsibilities to ensure effective transitions:

- **Children's Services (Health and Social Care):**

Begin transition planning, sharing information and considering preparing for adult life and involving young people, where possible, in decision-making.

- **Adult Services (Health and Social Care):** Work in partnership with children's services to receive referrals and assessments early, ensuring that adult services are prepared to support the young person's needs.

- **Education:** Engage in transition discussions and planning to ensure that educational support, where needed, is maintained during and after transition.

- **Commissioners:** Ensure services are commissioned and structured to provide continuous care during the transition phase, considering the NICE recommendations for a flexible approach to services.



Our Strategic Priorities

Reviewing the policy:

The Transitions Policy outlines the current process for transition in Salford. We will review and monitor the recently refreshed Transitions Policy to ensure it is fit for purpose, assess progress, identify gaps, and determine emerging needs.

Empowering families and young people:

Through clear guidance and accessible information, we will help families know what to expect, what questions to ask, and when to ask them, ensuring they can effectively advocate for their young person and confidently navigate every stage of the journey into adult services.

Improving information sharing:

- We will review our IT systems to explore opportunities for improving data quality, integration, and business intelligence capabilities.
- We will collaborate with services to strengthen information sharing and improve our collective understanding of the current and future needs of young people and their families.

Co-production and feedback:

We will continue working with young people and families, valuing their lived experiences, to co-design solutions and shape future developments that truly meet their needs.

Making transition everyone's responsibility:

Raising awareness of transitions to ensure all professionals understand their roles and responsibilities, and feel equipped and supported to deliver effective transitions.

Monitoring Impact and evaluation

Monitoring

- To ensure accountability and ongoing improvement, we will develop monitoring and performance measures in place to evaluate the effectiveness of our transition processes.
- Monitoring will take place every six months using both detailed case studies and individual service data. This will help us assess the quality and impact of services, understand outcomes, and identify areas for improvement. Case studies will provide insight into the lived experiences of young people and families, while service data will highlight trends and performance over time.

Continuous Improvement

We use monitoring findings to identify what is working well and where development is needed.

- Salford City Council is committed to learning from feedback, case reviews, and national best practice to support smooth, well-supported transitions into adulthood.
- We will continue to work across the system and with partners to improve how we monitor transitions and measure impact.
- We will regularly update our action plan and co-develop a set of metrics to track progress and effectiveness over time.

Further Information

For further information, advice and guidance:

Jargon Buster – A glossary of regularly used terminology, acronyms and abbreviations

[Jargon buster | mycity Directory \(salford.gov.uk\)](#)

Local Offer

[Local Offer | mycity Directory \(salford.gov.uk\)](#)

Thrive In Education

[Thrive in Education | Partners in Salford](#)

Graduated Approach

[SEND Children Thrive Graduated Approach • Salford City Council](#)

