

**Workshop title: Preparing for Independence, Leaving Care & Staying Put**

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**Aim:** To support fostering providers in preparing young people with practical and relational skills for independent life

**Designed for:** Foster carers with placements aged 10 upwards and Supervising Social Workers

**Objectives:** During the workshop, foster carers and social workers will

- recognise the key issues and skills needed for successful transition to independent living
- consider the leaving care legislation, guidance and procedures for local authorities
- develop strategies and tools for building life skills throughout a placement
- share knowledge and resources for preparing a fostered young person for independence

**Method:** This workshop will be participative, using practical examples and exercises to help everyone relate the learning to their fostering

**Length:** One day

**Content: Issues for care leavers**

- The difference between a placement and adult life
- Expectations, outlook, attitudes and reality
- Practical, financial, social and work skills

**Legislation and regulations**

- Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 Children & Families Act 2014
- Care Leavers' Charter
- Options after 18 including Staying Put

**Foster carer strategies**

- When is the right time to learn life skills and attitudes?
- How to plan for and include these skills and knowledge in a placement

**Leaving care resources**

- Pathway plans, personal advisers and leaving care workers
- Organisations and publications

All our fostering training workshops are linked to the Training, Support and Development Standards