

An Introduction for Parents/Carers and Guardians of Young People

What is Connexions?

Connexions is the national support service for all young people aged 13-19, and up to 25 for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Connexions offers young people advice, guidance and support on a range of issues such as education, training, jobs, money and lifestyle decisions, to help them make a smooth transition to adulthood and working life.

Parents and carers are the biggest single influence on the decisions young people will make about their future, so it is important that you are aware of the help available to young people through Connexions.

How can Connexions help my son/daughter?

All young people can meet a Personal Adviser (PA) who will offer practical support, advice and guidance on many issues including education, careers, work & training, health, housing, money & benefits, volunteering, development opportunities and leisure.

In addition, young people can get advice and information from Central London Connexions and local authority websites and at Connexions One Stop Shops throughout the area.

Connexions Direct offer quick and easy access to expert advice from 8am – 2am, 7 days a week by calling **080 800 13 2 19** or via text on **07766 4 13 2 19**, webchat or email is available at www.connexions-direct.com. This service is also available to Parents and Carers.

Learning routes for your son/daughter from ages 14-19



What do the learning routes mean?

- Higher or Advanced Diploma**
- GCSE / A Level**
- Foundation Learning**
- Apprenticeship**

The Diploma combines theoretical study with practical experience based around a work-related curriculum. It is available at Foundation, Higher and Advanced level (Level 1 - Level 3).

GCSE and A level qualifications are regularly updated to ensure that they remain high quality, relevant and interesting. They can be combined with Diplomas.

This is for learners not ready for a full level 2 qualification and include a mix of learning to suit the individual.

Apprenticeships allow students to learn at work and gain qualifications. The number and range of Apprenticeships is increasing hugely so 1 in 5 will take this route by 2020.

CONSIDER OPTIONS

Well before the decision points, information and advice will be critical to guide young people to make the best choice for them in relation to their prior learning. Some students may change paths at 17 because there are more one year courses available after 16.

There are, of course, many other options after you turn 18, including a gap year and volunteering

The range of guidance and support will vary according to young people's needs at the time.

This could include:

- Help in choosing and applying for further education or degree courses
- Help in finding work or training
- Support in schools or colleges to help young people complete their course
- Advice about funding while at school or college
- Advice about spare time activities that could help develop skills
- Help with benefits or childcare issues
- Advice and support on housing or other personal issues like health or drugs, that would affect young people's ability to study, train or work.

The aim of Connexions is to help your son/daughter get the advice or support that they need to achieve their goals.

Where can my son/daughter find Connexions?

Connexions Personal Advisers can be based in schools, colleges, training schemes and many youth projects.

There are Connexions One Stop Shops in every borough that are available for your son/daughter to visit.

To find out more about the Connexions Service in central London, to find your local centre, or to contact us visit: www.centallondonconnexions.org.uk

This information is available in alternative formats, please call **020 7938 8080**.

If you have any comments on this publication email:

info@centallondonconnexions.org.uk

Useful links

Please find a list of useful links that will provide you with further information, advice and guidance on different issues.

www.direct.gov.uk

www.parentscentre.gov.uk

www.parentlineplus.org.uk

www.gotateenager.org.uk

www.mychoicelondon.co.uk

www.parentpartnership.org.uk

<http://moneytolearn.direct.gov.uk>

www.parentchannel.tv

Central London Connexions One Stop Shops

Borough	Name & Address	Telephone
Camden	West Euston One Stop Shop , Corner of Hampstead Road and Robert Street, Camden, London, NW1 3ED	020 7388 6007
	Connexions Camden Centre , 78 Parkway, Camden, London, NW1 7AN	020 7482 3996
	Crowndale Centre , 218-220 Eversholt Street, Camden, NW1 1BD	020 7974 4595
	South Camden Youth Access Point (SCYAP) , 82-84 Cromer Street, Camden, W1CH 8DR	020 7974 8256/ 020 7974 8257
	Gospel Oak Youth Access Point , 44 Ashdown Crescent Street, Camden, NW5 4QE	020 7974 7105
Islington	PULSE , 164 Holloway Road, London, N7 8DD	020 7527 1300
	The Zone , Holloway School, Hilldrop Road, London, N7 0JG	020 7607 5885 / 020 7697 9242
	Caxton House , 129 St Johns Way, London, N19 3RQ	020 7281 9897
Kensington and Chelsea	Connexions Centre , 125 Freston Road, London, W10 6TH	020 7938 8008
Lambeth	Connexions Centre , 1-5 Acre Lane, Brixton, London, SW2 5TB	020 7326 7642
Southwark	Southwark Learning Business Centre , Cator Street, London, SE15 6AA	020 7525 4357
	Faces in Focus , 102 Harper Road, Elephant and Castle, London, SE1 6AQ	020 7403 2444
Wandsworth	Connexions Centre , 17 Falcon Road, Battersea, London, SW11 2PJ	020 7326 8700
	Connexions at Tooting Base , 74-80 Upper Tooting Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7PB	020 8682 9457
	Connexions at Roehampton Base , 33-35 Danebury Avenue, Roehampton, London, SW15 4DQ	020 8780 5253
Westminster	Youth Hub at Stowe , The Stowe Centre, 258 Harrow Road, London, W2 5ES	020 7641 7747
	Connexions Youth Hub at Lupus Street , 131 Lupus Street, London, SW1V 3EN	020 7641 2069 / 020 7641 4012