

## **Preparing for Adulthood**

The term “Preparing for Adulthood” is used to describe the process of moving from childhood into adulthood for young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The formal Preparing for Adulthood Pathway starts when a young person is in Year 9 (13 or 14 years old). It may continue beyond the age of 19, for some young people, if it is considered that they require a longer period in education or training in order to achieve their outcomes and make an effective transition. Transition support from other agencies may continue until the young person is 25.

All young people and their parents have the right to have high expectations for their future. Young people with special educational needs (SEN) may face additional barriers and challenges to achieving their goals.

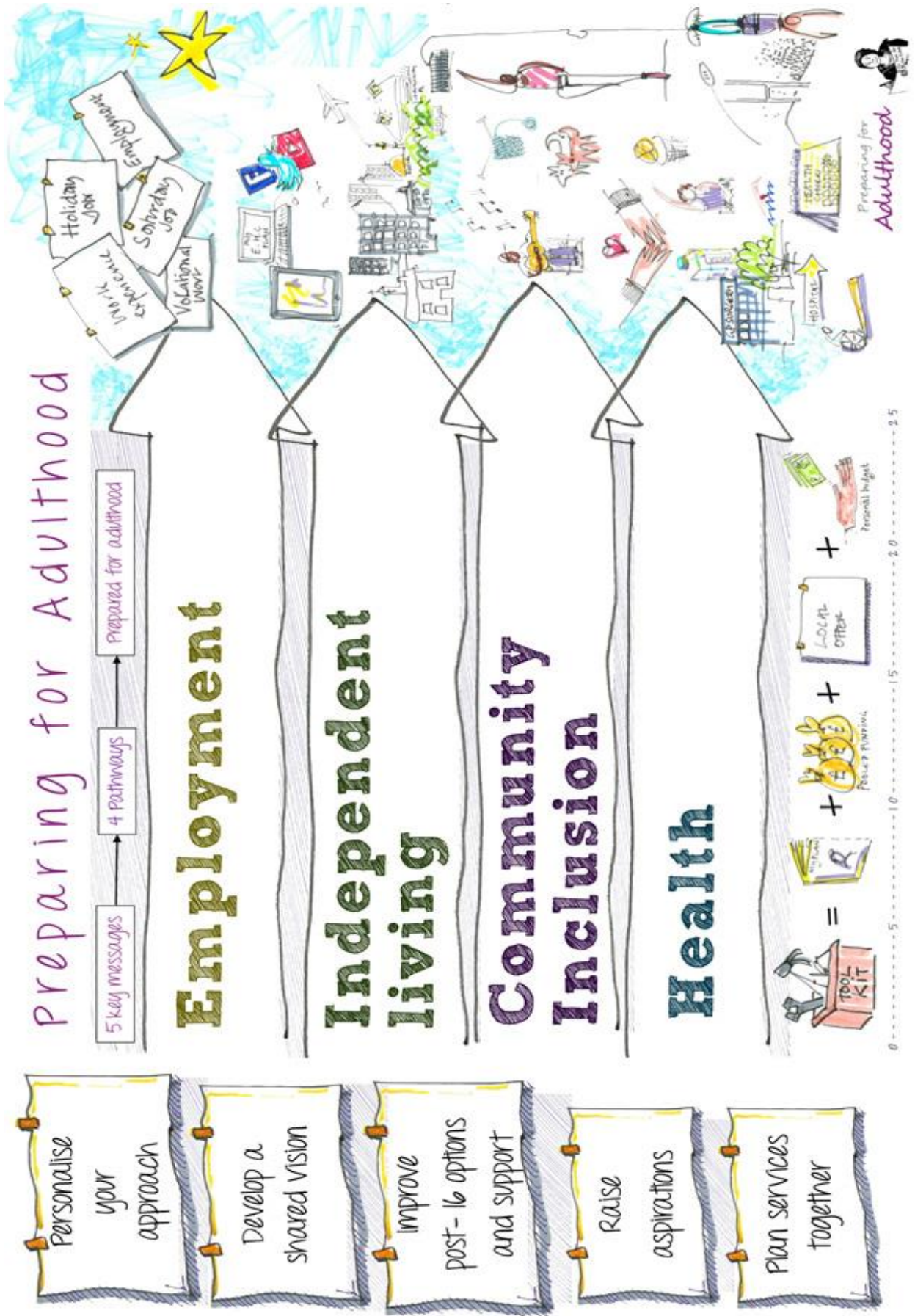
Preparing for Adulthood means identifying the support a young person will need to live as full and active an adult life as possible.

The Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 years (which supports the legislation) says preparing for adulthood means preparing for:

- **Higher Education and/or employment** - including exploring different employment options, such as support for becoming self-employed and help from supported employment agencies, apprenticeships, supported internships
- **Independent living** - this means young people have choice, control and freedom over their lives and the support they have, their accommodation and living arrangements, including supported living
- **Participating in society** - including having friends and supportive relationships, and participating in, and contributing to, the local community
- **Being as healthy as possible in adult life** - ensuring access to the right health professionals who understand the young person’s learning difficulties and disabilities.

These are known as the Preparing for Adulthood Outcomes.

Websites to find more information on **Preparing for Adulthood** can be found in the Further Information section of this planner.



- Personalise your approach
- Develop a shared vision
- Improve post-16 options and support
- Raise aspirations
- Plan services together