

**Newfield**  
Inspire | Support | Achieve | Together



## Guide to Transition – What's next after Newfield?

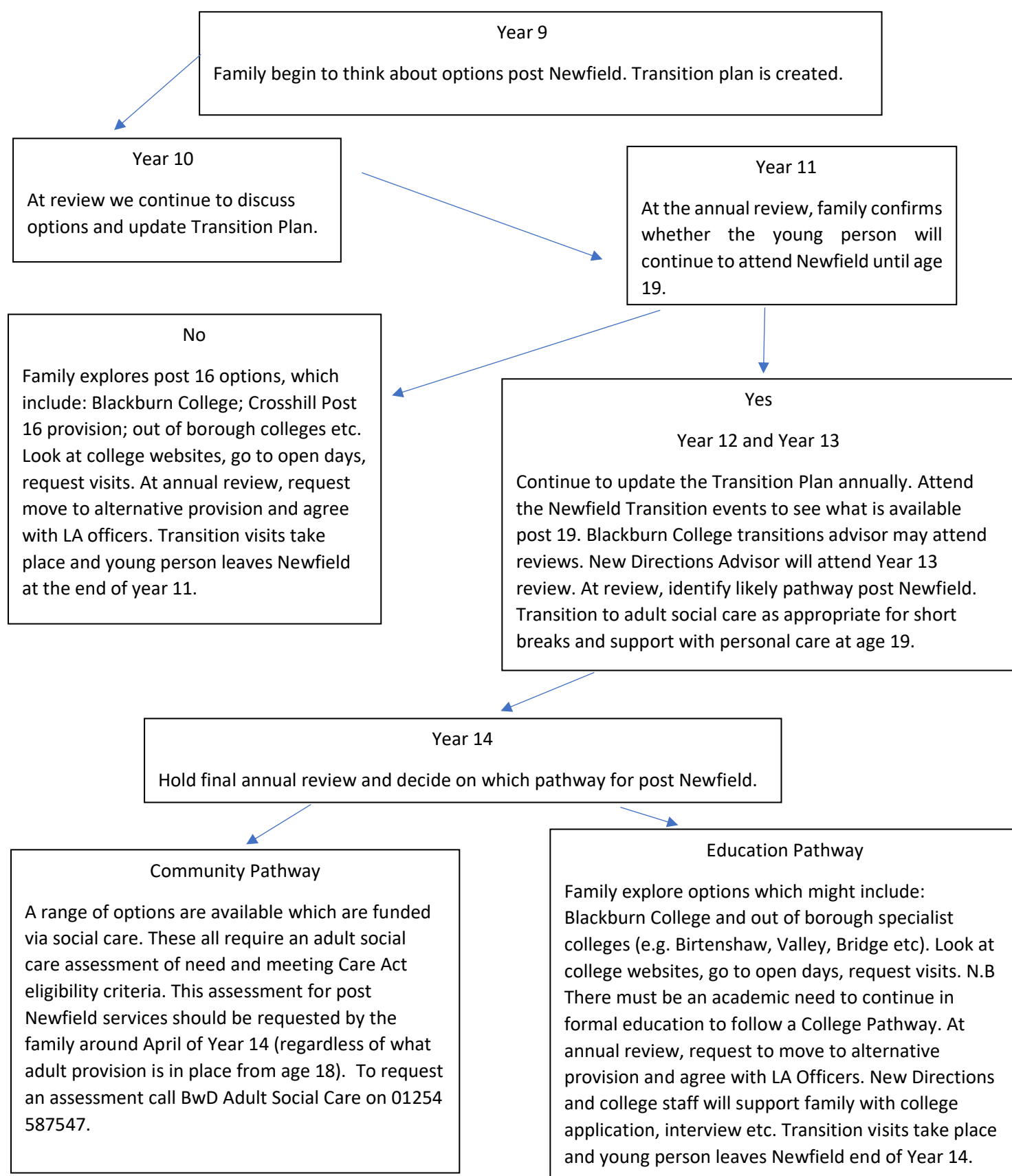
Education or Community Pathway  
and Opportunities for Everyday Life

Newfield School have produced this booklet to help families think about what the lives of our children and young people could look like once they have left Newfield. This booklet focusses on how we start to make plans with our young people and their families, to access further education and explore what alternatives are available, should this not be the most appropriate way forward.

*This list is not exhaustive, but gives some examples of what is available locally to BwD*

## Flowchart – Preparing for Adulthood (Transitions Pathway)

### What Will Happen in School?



## Education Pathway

There are a number of colleges that families might want to consider. Below is a list of some of some of the colleges that former Newfield pupils have accessed. However, families need to be mindful that the Local Authority **have** to agree that the Further Education Pathway is the most appropriate pathway for the young person.

**Blackburn College** – provides an inclusive learning environment, which meets the needs of all students including those with SEND. The college has exceptional achievement rates for students with SEND, due to the highly effective, specialist support which enables full engagement in education and social aspects of college life. Blackburn College have high learning expectations for all student and advocate for independence and use learner strengths to support all aspects of learning. For further information please go to [www.blackburn.ac.uk](http://www.blackburn.ac.uk) or telephone (01254) 292151

**Birtenshaw College** provides specialist further education for young people aged between 16 and 25 with a range of special needs, including cognitive, physical and sensory impairment. Many learners also have a diagnosis of autism or an associated condition. All learners have an Education, Health and care Plan. For further information go to [www.birtenshaw.org.uk](http://www.birtenshaw.org.uk) or telephone (01204) 304230.

**Valley College** is a specialist post 16 institution (SPI) owned by and part of the Sea View Trust. The college offers a post-18 course which has been designed to meet the needs of a specific group of Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LLDD) on a programme of up to 3 years. Learners admitted to the college roll are aged between 18 to 25 years and have an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) identifying their needs and individual objectives.

Valley College, Rossendale is a 4 day provision- Tuesday to Friday- 08.50am to 3:15pm.

The vision for college learners is to equip them with the skills to be fully included in their own community. College can be a pathway to paid work, further study or meaningful volunteering. The pathways are accredited and the College has formed extensive employment networks with local business and community organisations. For further information please go to [www.valleycollege.co.uk](http://www.valleycollege.co.uk)

**Natspec** – Produce a mini directory of all the specialist colleges in the Country with details of their websites so that parents can undertake their own research. To request a copy, go to [www.natspec.org.uk/colleges](http://www.natspec.org.uk/colleges)

## Community Pathway

Listed below is information about some of the Community Pathway options that families may want to explore further or discuss with the social worker. (as outlined above).

**St Aidans** - The Short Term Breaks service is located on St Aidan's Avenue in Mill Hill, Blackburn. The service operates as a guesthouse to enable people over the age of 18 years, who live in Blackburn with Darwen and who have a learning and/or physical disability to enjoy a short break.

The service has aids, adaptations and equipment to meet the needs of people. Fully trained and competent staff are on hand to offer help and support where needed.

The service provides a lively environment with lots going on for people who like to be active and social.

The building has five guest bedrooms including en-suites with walk in showers. There is also a one-bedroom apartment situated adjacent to the main building, with private entrances. A lounge and kitchen areas are also available to provide opportunities for people to experience greater independence but with the reassurance that members of staff are on hand if needed.

The cost of the service will depend on how long you stay and what services you receive.

It is possible that you may be able to get help with the costs

**Hopwood Court** provides a Day support provision for eligible adults with high support needs in the following:

- Dementia
- Learning Disabilities or on the Autistic spectrum
- Physical Disabilities
- Sensory impairment
- Adults aged 18-65

The Day support at Hopwood seeks to promote independence and strength-based approach for people with greater levels of need, support and complexity.

The service is available to residents of Blackburn and Darwen following an assessment of need. (Any adult 18 years and above with assessed need). An adult social care practitioner will complete a Care Act assessment or review highlighting a person's assessed need. During the assessment process if it is established that Day Service support would be beneficial a referral is made to the Day service team. The service times for service users are 10am-4pm Monday to Friday. You can contact Hopwood Court on (01254) 507180

**Shared Lives** - is a care and support service. It's for eligible people aged 18 and over who want to live independently in their community, with the support of a family and community network.

It's an alternative to supported living or residential care. Unlike other supported accommodation, you would move into a family home with your carer, and share their family life.

You would be carefully matched to a carer and integrated into their family household. Your carer will help you to grow in confidence and learn new skills.

Shared Lives care is based on shared interests, lifestyles and family.

### Types of shared lives placements

- Long term placements – which may continue for several months or years. You will move into the home of your carer, and share family life
- Short term breaks – anything from one night to a few weeks at a time. These may be a 'one-off' or planned on a regular basis to provide respite breaks to your family and carers
- Daytime support – a carer will provide support for you for a few hours a day or over the week either in their home or in the community

### How Shared Lives works

You are eligible for Shared Lives care if you are 18 or over, and have undergone a social care assessment that shows you are eligible.

Shared Lives gives you the chance to live in a family environment and become part of a community. The scheme will help you to gain the confidence and skills to live independently. You can keep up with existing friendships and develop new ones. If you wish, your carer will support you to find activities, might often get involved in clubs, activities and volunteering.

- You would still continue to see your own family and friends as much as you want.
- Some people who use Shared Lives say they feel settled & valued for the first time in their lives.
- For an informal chat, you can contact the scheme on (01254) 585899.
- To access the service you will need to have a Social Care Assessment. You can request this by contacting Customer Liaison on (01254) 587547.

**Highfield (The Base) Accrington** - The Base is a day centre. They offer daytime support for services users, daytime respite for families and a varied timetable of activities within a spacious building.

People are welcome to come along with their own carer or PA or alternatively, commission support from the setting – from £4.19 per hour for low support needs to £16.64 per hour for very high support needs.

Highfield also offer supported living. Highfield can provide you with 24-hour support in your own home or a shared house. For further information please contact (01254) 883392 or go to [www.highfieldservices.net](http://www.highfieldservices.net)

**Purple Patch** – A community-based service, committed to improving the lives of people with disabilities. Tailored services include a variety of meaningful activities/workshops including 1:1 outreach service, independent living skills, personal development programmes and fun. Sessions are designed to improve confidence, independence, health and well-being. For further information, telephone (01254) 690699 or email [office@purplepatchpartners.org.uk](mailto:office@purplepatchpartners.org.uk)

**My Life My Choice in Wigan** - offer a wide variety of services from their bases in Standish, Leigh, Wigan and also in the community. From Life Opportunities to work-based experiences, guidance, training and support in health, care, employment and planning for the future, holiday clubs, short breaks and more, we're here for everyone. [info@my-life.org.uk](mailto:info@my-life.org.uk) (01257 472900)

**Freshfields** – A dedicated day service in Burnley that aims to empower adults with disabilities and diverse support needs. Freshfields provide individuals with valuable support skills and comprehensive training in horticulture, plant production, plant care and gardening. They are also committed to sustainable practices. Teaching recycling and reuse techniques. In addition, they nurture and enable life skills.

Freshfields also recognise the importance of well-rounded support and further development and as such offer a diverse range of engaging activities throughout the week, such as kitchen skills, arts and crafts, dance and drama, bike riding and maintenance in addition to the gardening and horticulture. The service is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. For more details visit the website or telephone (01282) 832820

**Adam's Activity Ark** – A project for Adults with learning disabilities, physical disabilities or mental health needs. Providing opportunities to individuals in a vast range of activities including: small/large animal care, horticulture, woodwork, healthy eating, basic food preparation, English and maths. The resource is based at Mrs Dowson's farm, Longsight Road, Blackburn. For further information please telephone 077152 71679 or email [adamsactivityark@hotmail.com](mailto:adamsactivityark@hotmail.com)

**Access Ability** - Access Ability has provided disability support services across Lancashire for more than 10 years. Their aim is to provide opportunities that enable disabled people to lead meaningful lives.

Their projects are created to improve opportunities, that develop skills, build on individual strengths, interests and support goals. They look at ways to enhance their services and empower individuals to unlock their potential.

As an independent organisation they value the involvement of individuals, their family and the wider community so that together their service develops around the needs locally, which ensures a fully inclusive and holistic range of support and services.

Access Ability work with local employers to validate them to become Disability Confident. They provide ongoing support, advice and information to ensure disabled talent is included in the workplace. They welcome parents and young people to visit their centre to find out more of what they do.

Access Ability is based at:1 Towers Court, Duckworth Street, Blackburn BB2 2JQ. Telephone (01254) 670836 or email [info@accessability.org.uk](mailto:info@accessability.org.uk)

**Olive Tree Domiciliary Service** - Olive Tree and Reach Skills Centre are based in Blackburn providing community support to adults with a range of needs including learning disabilities, autism, physical disabilities, and mental health needs. Olive Tree offers supported living and domiciliary care serviced to people across Blackburn and the Linked Reach Skills Centre supports people to develop their skill range through curriculum-based sessions and activities in house and out in the community.

Olive Tree is a support service for adults with learning disabilities, autism, mental health and complex needs. They are registered with the Care Quality Commission who regulate care services in

England. Olive Tree offers individual, person-centred support packages tailored to the individuals needs. This support can be offered in either a supported living arrangement or through outreach support. Support packages can start from 15 hours each week to 24 hours support daily.

All Olive Tree staff are fully trained in line with national requirements and have a wealth of experience in the care sector. Olive Tree staff have a shared vision focussed on promoting independence, choice, individuality and work towards achieving outcomes and goals.

**To learn more about Olive Tree & Reach Skills Centre contact:** [james.leathert@potens-uk.com](mailto:james.leathert@potens-uk.com)  
[dave.atherton@potens-uk.com](mailto:dave.atherton@potens-uk.com) or telephone (01254) 674 295

**Sporting NRG** – is a local, specialist provider serving the communities of Blackburn with Darwen. Their aim is to enable children, young people and adults with disabilities and their families to access short term break support and the opportunity to access and enjoy a wide range of experiences.

They support children and young people (aged 8 to 18 years) and adults (aged 18+) to enable them to take part in a variety of activities alongside their friends of similar ages and abilities.

The service can provide individual support on a 1:1 basis, 2:1 supported sessions or group sessions at a number of venues within the local area. i.e. monthly visits to the SPACE Centre in Preston, Swimming sessions at Hydro@ the Barn in Clayton-Le-Moors. The Jumpworks Trampoline Centre in Accrington.

The service operates throughout the week (Monday to Friday) during the day, Weekends, Evenings (regular evening sessions are available during the week Monday to Thursday) and regular group Outreach session.

If you would like more information, please contact, Heather Blackwell, Outreach Coordinator on 07751 489715 or email [heather@sportingnrg.co.uk](mailto:heather@sportingnrg.co.uk)

**Frank House Care Services Ltd** – The service is available to children, young people and adults with disabilities. Their Outreach provision helps to create independence and develop social skills as well as supporting people to access the community. Outreach includes:

- support to attend financial, medical and social appointment

- healthy eating

- accessing local community groups

Assisting in educational, employment and training opportunities and much more

The Home Care element of the service provides support with a variety of tasks, to help with the day to day lives of the people who use the service. This might include:

- General needs, such as changing beds
- Shopping and paying bills
- Assistance with laundry
- Preparing and serving meals
- Light domestic cleaning
- Managing appointments

For further information please telephone (01254) 936336 or go to [bwd@fhcltd.co.uk](mailto:bwd@fhcltd.co.uk)

## Groups, Activities and Opportunities

**Care Network Hub** – Based on Town Hall Street in Blackburn and located opposite Blackburn Central Library, Care Network Hub is a key information point for adults with disabilities and their families. There are a range of groups that are hosted by the service. They can signpost to a wide variety of support services. In addition to this they oversee a “Trusted Trader” Service which a wide range of Trades People have signed up to and commit to providing vulnerable groups with a written quote prior to commencing any work such as plumbing, joinery, plastering etc. For more information please contact Care Network at [www.carenetwork.org.uk](http://www.carenetwork.org.uk) or telephone (01254) 507255.

**Health and Wellbeing Learning Disability and Autism Provision (formerly known as Motivate)** offer a weekly timetable of activity sessions for adults with a learning disability. Age 16+. Their aim is to help people lead an active lifestyle and improve their health and wellbeing. Staff are friendly and helpful and sessions are open to all abilities.

So, if you fancy trying something new, want to improve your fitness or just enjoy meeting other people, come along! Cost is £1 per session with a Beez card. Carers attend free of charge. Please telephone (01254) 682037 Or email [wellbeing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:wellbeing@blackburn.gov.uk)

**Sliding Doors Social Club** – For people with disabilities aged 18+. Variety of activities available. Anyone requiring support will need to bring a carer. (Carers can attend free of charge). Tel: 07495 303 224 or email: [slidingdoorsocial@gmail.com](mailto:slidingdoorsocial@gmail.com)

**Monday – Social Club** 9.30am-12pm at Ivy Street Community Centre BB2 3RR. An opportunity for people to get together, make new friends and engage in activities such as board games and bingo. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. No booking required. Session costs £5.50

**Monday – Happy Song and Music Group** 1pm-3pm at Ivy Street Community Centre BB2 3RR

A fun afternoon of music and dancing for everyone. Come and sing, dance or just listen to some music. Coffee, tea and biscuits provided. No booking required. Session cost £5.50.

**Tuesday – Lads Group** 9.30am-12.30pm at Mill Hill Community Centre. For young men with additional needs. A wide range of activities such as X box, Pool. Bowling and trips to outdoor facilities. Refreshments provided. Booking essential. Session cost £5.00.

**Tuesday – Young People’s Group** 6.00pm-8.00pm at Mill Hill Community Centre. A group for young people over the age of 18 with additional needs. A safe space to engage in activities such as Wii. Refreshments provided. No booking required. Session cost £3.00.

**Wednesday Social Group** – 9.30am-12.30pm at Mill Hill Community Centre, New Chapel Street, Blackburn BB2 4DT. An opportunity for people to get together, make new friends and engage in activities such as Board games and bingo. Coffee, tea and biscuits provided. No booking required. Session cost £5.50.

**Wednesday Happy Song and Music** – 1.00pm-3.00pm at Mill Hill Community Centre, New Chapel Street, Blackburn BB2 4DT. A fun afternoon of music and dancing for everyone. Come and sing,



dance or just listen to some music. Coffee, tea and biscuits provided. No booking required. Session cost £5.50.

Thursday Social Group 9.30am-12.30pm at Mill Hill Community Centre. Get together, make new friends and engage in activities such as board games, singing and bingo. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. No booking required. Session costs £5.50.

Thursday Night is Party Night at the Blues Bar, Ewood Park. Our flagship evening for those who are isolated or just want a safe night out to meet others and have fun. We have lots of people aged 18-85 coming together to have a great night out. Open to everyone aged 18 and over. £3.00 entry fee, bingo and raffle 50p extra.

## **ELSI (East Lancashire Social Inclusion Club – was known previously as Gateway)**

ELSI is a social club where adults with learning difficulties can meet in a safe environment. It is also a registered charity. ELSI host a social evening, offering a mixture of activities including a disco, licenced bar, tea bar, darts, pool, dominoes, occasional trips and sports tournaments and many other activities.

Individuals can choose to come by themselves, with friends, family or carers.

There is no membership fee to join but there is a small charge per session.

For more information please contact Pauline Parkinson on (01254) 728642 or 07818 465491

## More About Adult Social Care

### Referrals and general enquiries to Adult Social Care

The Customer Liaison Team in Adult Social Care are the first point of contact for referrals and general enquiries regarding social care run services. You can contact them from 08.45 to 17:00, Monday to Friday on (01254) 587547.

When you contact the service, they will discuss your situation over the phone and talk about your needs and discuss what services are available to help you. To be able to work out what your needs are and how best to meet them, an assessment will be undertaken. After the assessment, the social worker will identify and agree your needs with you and discuss the help and support available to meet them according to the seriousness of your situation.

### Adult Social Care Learning Disability Team

The team supports young people (17+) and adults with learning disabilities and their family/carers to identify and assess their care and support needs, so that they can recommend appropriate support and packages of care.

In order to be eligible for this service, the young person or adult would need to have a diagnosed learning disability, and meet the eligibility criteria under the Care Act.

As part of the process, the allocated social worker will work closely with the individual and their family to identify care needs, daily living and social needs, life skills enablement, person centred planning and any employment or training needs.

Following the assessment, the social worker will make a recommendation of support. This may include referrals to health colleagues, referrals to multi-agency and universal services and identify continuing healthcare eligibility.

There are a range of longer-term services that can be offered, if the individual is eligible and these include, Direct Payments, commissioned services, domiciliary care, social opportunities, employment and training opportunities, respite breaks and accommodation and support options.

The team also offer carers assessments regarding respite support to informal carers. Examples of support for carers include, respite vouchers to use at the local respite service, St. Aidan's, an offer of a direct payment to purchase further services and support, signposting to advice and support or a referral to the Carers Service and Care Network Hub.

### What are Direct Payments?

Direct payments allow you to receive cash payments from your local authority instead of care services. This can give you much more flexibility and greater control of your support package. If the local authority has decided that you are entitled to community care services, you will probably be able to choose to receive payments instead of the services. These are **direct payments** and you can use the money to arrange your own care services.