

# Transitions to Adulthood

## WHEN YOUR CHILD TURNS 14 YEARS OF AGE

### MEDICARE

Once your child turns 14, parents and guardians will have limited access to their Child's Medicare records, unless appointed as an **Authorised Representative**. To be your child's Authorised Representative, you must complete **Form MO050**, entitled 'Authorisation to act on an incapacitated person's behalf for Medicare purposes' <https://bit.ly/2WRA38m>

For privacy reasons, parents and guardians will also no longer be able to access their child's Medicare or pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) claims history using their Medicare online account via myGov. Parents can request this information by completing:

**Form MS031** - 'Medicare Claims Information' <https://bit.ly/2WRA5x0> and **Form MS040** - 'Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Claims History' <https://bit.ly/2E3LgLP>

### 'MY HEALTH RECORD'

If your child is under 18, a parent or guardian is authorised to register their child for a 'My Health Record' (MHR), an online summary of key health information and access and manage their child's 'My Health Record'.

You will be able to see health information about your child, uploaded by health professionals, see tests undertaken, prescriptions, add and remove information and set access controls.

A child over 14 is also able to control their own 'My Health Record'. If this option is more suited to your child, a parent or guardian will no longer be authorised to access and manage their child's 'My Health Record'. However, a parent/guardian can be granted access if appointed a **Nominated Representative**. Instructions to appoint a Nominated Representative can be found here <https://bit.ly/2MXMqeh>



## WHEN YOUR CHILD TURNS 15 YEARS OF AGE

It's a good idea to ensure that your child has access to the following before the age of 16 when more identifying documentation is required to obtain these important items:

- **Bank account in your child's own name, preferably with a linked debit card.**

If desired, a parent or guardian can apply to the bank to have authority to operate the bank account. Most banks will also link children's bank accounts to parent bank accounts to facilitate internet and phone banking. Payment into a bank account in the name of the person with a disability means that they will continue to be able to access their payments in the event that a parent or carer is absent for any reason.

- **Tax File Number (TFN)** - find out how to apply here <https://bit.ly/1NN96He>

- **Birth Certificate** - If you are unable to locate your child's Birth Certificate, find out how to apply for a copy here <https://bit.ly/2USvH0l>

After age 16, your child will need 100 points of ID in order to apply for a Tax File Number (TFN), bank account and/or apply for Centrelink payments! Acceptable forms of ID include **Student ID card**, **Birth Certificate**, **Passport** (find out how to apply for an Australian Passport here <https://bit.ly/2BvO0zM>), Photo ID card from the Department of Transport (find out how to apply here <https://bit.ly/2MYZGzB>).



## WHEN YOUR CHILD TURNS 16 YEARS OF AGE

### CENTRELINK

Once your child turns 16, Centrelink will treat your child as an adult and Carers Allowance payments (for children under 16 years of age) and the linked Health Care card in your child's name will **cease**.

There are other financial support payments available to eligible people with disabilities, aged 16 years or over and their carers:

#### YOUR CHILD:

- Disability Support Pension - <https://bit.ly/2gDDoaE>
- Authorising a person or organisation to enquire or act on your behalf (Form SS313) - <https://bit.ly/2l5uj7T>
- Pensioner Education Supplement - <https://bit.ly/2FzpjGI>
- Mobility Allowance - <https://bit.ly/2WUOWIY>
- Ex-Carer Allowance Child Health Care Card - <https://bit.ly/2tcL5aK>
- Medicare Card (in own name) - <https://bit.ly/2z5TLn5>
- Country Age Pension Fuel Card (Western Australian Government Scheme) - <https://bit.ly/2WSUmT6>

#### PARENT / CARER:

- Carer Allowance (Adult) - <https://bit.ly/2WTRqFR>
- Carer Payment - <https://bit.ly/2B1A4f0>

When the person you provide care for turns 15 years and 9 months, you can request to transfer to Carer Payment and Carer Allowance for an adult. Find out more here <https://bit.ly/2tc4b0l>.

It is important to request a transfer by the due date or Centrelink may stop your Carer Payment or Carer Allowance or both. The assessment rules for child and adult care receivers are different. Centrelink will assess your request and notify you of their decision. Nominees can request a transfer by choosing the person for whom they are a nominee from their own Centrelink online account.

## LEAVING SCHOOL

Making steps towards changes in the early teenage years will help your child to make a successful transition to adulthood. Your transition plans should cover **Further education, Employment, Life-skills and independent living and Social interaction and community participation**.

Look at your child's strengths, abilities, interests and support needs. It will give you time to work out the supports your child is likely to need based on what they want to do.





## FURTHER EDUCATION

If your child is interested in further education, options may include university, TAFE or vocational education and training. If your child wants to go to university, the Australian Government helps university students with disability through the Higher Education Disability Support Program - <https://bit.ly/2E4aU3f>. A young person with a disability has the same education rights as other students. This means that the further education provider must make reasonable adjustments to make sure your child has these opportunities.

## EMPLOYMENT

If your child is ready to begin looking for work, consider what sorts of jobs might suit their interests and abilities. Volunteering and paid work may help determine whether these interests are an option for employment. Volunteering will also help your child to learn skills, like punctuality, time management, routine, responsibility and working as part of a team.

Lots of high schools work in partnership with vocational education and training providers and can arrange work experience, traineeships and/or apprenticeships.

**JobAccess** is the national hub for workplace and employment information for people with disability - <https://bit.ly/2RQcLvT>

**Disability Employment Services (DES)** is the Australian Government's employment service that helps people with disability to find work. Through DES, your child can access career advice, pre-employment training, help to search for jobs, prepare a résumé and job interview preparation as well as receive ongoing support at work (as required), including funding for necessary workplace modifications and wage subsidies to employers - <https://bit.ly/2SE8r7p>

## LIFE SKILLS AND INDEPENDENT LIVING

There are a number of options for young people with additional needs who would like to live independently, including a fully independent life, a shared living arrangement or supported accommodation. Read Kalparrin's Quick Guide #7 for further information. Alternatively, if your child will continue to stay at home, parents may wish to review future options for financial planning, Wills and Trusts. Useful contacts are listed on Kalparrin's Quick Guide #9.

## SOCIAL INTERACTION AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Your child's transition plan should include plans for developing new and maintaining existing friendships as well as regular participation in social and recreational activities in the community. Useful contacts are listed on Kalparrin's Quick Guide #4.

**For more information, contact one of our friendly Family Support Officers, all of whom have personal experience of raising a child with additional needs.**



### Family Resource Centre

(Open 9.30am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday)  
Ground Floor, Perth Children's Hospital  
15 Hospital Avenue, Nedlands WA 6009

**t** Phone: (08) 6456 0035

**e** [kalparrinwa@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:kalparrinwa@health.wa.gov.au)

**w** [www.kalparrin.org.au](http://www.kalparrin.org.au)

Kalparrin is a not-for-profit organisation and Western Australia's oldest and largest member organisation, supporting parents caring for children with a disability, developmental delay, genetic, chronic medical or health condition.

Kalparrin is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient (DGR) under item 1 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.



## BECOME A MEMBER

Membership to Kalparrin is FREE and provides parents with access to a vast array of information, resources, opportunities and inclusive, family events as well as connection to a community of thousands of other parents supporting children with additional needs.

**JOIN NOW**

