



Action-attainment

Communication skills for life



19-25 Education, Health and Care

Getting a Life – transition to adulthood Understanding Powers of Attorney

Hearing young people's views is a key aim in new legislation around Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP). The EHCP is exciting as it can help young adults access college between the ages of 19-25; the crucial ages in terms of learning skills for independence and work.

However, young people may find this communication difficult; for example, when talking about their EHCP with local authority officers or even to a specialist tribunal judge. In such cases Power of Attorney enables the young adult to ask for assistance from a trusted person.

Young adults with communication and sensory needs can be highly capable, and very mis-understood. Communicating with officials from education to employers, housing to health may be complicated by people just not realising how disabling these hidden difficulties really are.

From the day of the young person's 18th birthday officials, aiming to respect independent decision making, can refuse to involve parents who have been key in young people's lives. Unintended problems may arise for all concerned.

Setting up Powers of Attorney provides the security that young adults with communication needs can continue to be supported in their decision making by people who have their best interests at heart.

Action-attainment is working with SinclairsLaw to provide information for families on Powers of Attorney on 10th November at the Disability Advice Centre, 4 Waldegrave Road, Teddington, TW11 8HT from 7-9pm. Places are limited, so please use the email below to sign up.

Contact sam@action-attainment.com; tel: 0208 392 9946

Getting A Life - Transition to Adulthood

Understanding Powers of Attorney

**10th November, 7pm-9pm, Disability Advice Centre,
Teddington, TW11 8HT**

Course leaders Vanessa Collins and Adam Friel, Sinclairslaw

“Parents need to understand how, on their child’s 18th birthday, legal independence is effective immediately. Suddenly it is possible for people outside the family to make decisions with a young person without consulting parents. For young adults with hidden disabilities, such as social communication needs, this can be concerning, and the implications do need to be understood.”

So says Vanessa Collins, who specializes in setting up Powers of Attorney for families. Vanessa and Adam Friel, a specialist in Education Law will be at an **Action-attainment** transition workshop on 10th November to discuss with parents the process and benefits of setting up Powers of Attorney.

Vanessa Collins is an experienced solicitor who joined the Twickenham branch of Sinclairslaw in 2012. She is now a Director and heads both the Private Client department and the Twickenham Office.

Vanessa’s specialisms include Powers of Attorney (Deputyships and LPAs) and Mental Health. She is involved in charitable work and her specialisms make her highly sought after in the community. Her ability to work in a clear, friendly way, sometimes in very difficult personal circumstances, is valued by her clients.

Adam Friel is the supervising solicitor of Sinclairslaw’s education department. Adam has extensive experience in all areas of education law, with specific expertise in appeals and claims to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal as well as in higher education.

Adam’s interest in education law was sparked as a consequence of his own learning difficulties (dyslexia) and the difficulties he faced both at school and university. He is very passionate about education rights

Applications for a workshop place contact: info@action-attainment.com

Telephone: 0208 392 9946

£15 contribution to Action-attainment is payable at the door