



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
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11th October 2021

Deputy Padraig O'Sullivan,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House, Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: padraig.osullivan@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ 46184/21

To ask the Minister for Health the process that a young person with an intellectual disability follows when they exit formal schooling; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

Young people with an intellectual disability leaving school that have a requirement for a HSE funded day service are usually referred by the school to the HSE Guidance Service in their local area. This referral usually occurs in the year prior to the young person leaving school.

Once a referral is received by the HSE, a process is initiated to establish the support needs of the young person involved. A Profiling meeting is set up involving the young person, their family, the school staff and any other professionals that have knowledge of the person's needs. The outcome of the profiling meeting is used to inform the onward referral to the day service provider that is best placed to meet the young person's need. The outcome also informs the allocation of funding which the HSE receives each year to meet the needs of young people leaving school that have a requirement for a HSE funded day service.

The profiling process usually takes place between September and December of the year prior to the young person leaving school. Many day service providers enable young school leavers to sample day service locations throughout the last six months of their school placement. This process can greatly contribute to a smooth transition from school to adult day services. This process of sampling has not been available during COVID-19, but hopefully it can be resumed in the future.

Generally agreement is reached regarding the most appropriate service response for each individual and young people that leave school at end of June/July commence in their day service during the month of September in the same year.

Yours sincerely,

Bernard O'Regan
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations