

## Benefits when a child who gets Disability Living Allowance approaches their 16th Birthday

**6 months before**

**Disability Living Allowance Renewal**

The parents or carers will be sent a renewal form to complete, and if they do not return it in time DLA payments will stop

Before a child's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday their parent/carer is automatically their appointee, but if an appointee is needed after the age of 16 this must be requested. Usually the Jobcentre will send out a visiting officer to interview both the disabled person and the prospective appointee

**A Few Weeks Before**

**Should the child remain as part of their parents'/carers' claim? Does not apply to Foster Carers**

Are the parents claiming means-tested benefits, for example Income Support (IS) or Child Tax Credit (CTC), with the child included in the claim?

Child Benefit will stop

If the parents are not on means-tested benefits it will be financially beneficial if the child makes their own claim

If the parents/carers are receiving less than about £55 a week from CTC or IS the family will be better off financially if the disabled child makes their own claim for benefit

If the parents/carers are receiving more than about £55 per week from CTC or IS then the family will be better off financially if they leave things as they are

They should still receive Child Benefit

Benefits paid because of child care responsibilities, including Child Benefit, will stop



# Welfare

# RIGHTS

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**On the 16th Birthday**

Young people who will be making their own claim to benefits should do it as soon as possible

Someone else can do it on their behalf if they are the appointee

**REMEMBER—Young people in full-time non advanced education may be eligible for Education Maintenance Allowance depending on household income**

### More Information

The Welfare Rights Service provide a range of guides and briefing notes available from Adult Social Care Offices and online on the intranet and internet at:

<http://www.leics.gov.uk/>

Welfare Rights Officers are based at Social Care Service offices throughout the county. If you require further information about anything on this leaflet or some general advice concerning welfare rights issues contact your local office.