

What decisions can my carer make about me?

- The longer you have been in care the more decisions your carer will be able to make about you
- What your carer can agree will be set out in your placement plan at the start of your placement
- Some of this will vary depending on your circumstances
- ♦ Until now your social worker had to make most of the decisions about you.
- ♦ Now your carer can make more decisions without checking with the social worker first.
- ♦ As the social work has passed (delegated) more responsibility to the foster carer this is called 'delegated responsibility'
- ♦ This should make things easier for you as you shouldn't have to wait for decisions on every day things, for some children and young people this might be things like having your hair cut, going out with your friends, sleeping at a friends house, the time you have to be in at night etc.
- ♦ Some big decisions will still need to be made by your social worker but your views and your foster carer's views should be taken into account



CAIS

Myths and facts about decisions

Myth	Fact
My carer said she can't make the decision to let me sleep over at a friends house.	Decisions about overnight stays should normally be made by your carers rather than your social worker. There may be exceptional reasons why this can't happen for example concerns over your safety, ask your social worker to explain this. Your friends parent's do not need a DBS check for you to stay at their house.
Should my carer have to ask my social worker if I want to go on a school day trip?	No, this is a type of day to day decision that your carer should make.
I can't go on holidays without my social workers permission	Your carer can decide to take you away on holiday in the UK, but your social worker will need to be notified. For a holiday abroad your social worker will have to agree.



Want more information about delegation of authority to carers'?

- If you want to know more you can ask for a document call Just Like Everyone Else which explains this. If you would like this document or if you have general questions or concerns contact CAIS on 02075278694
- ♦ If you want to know more about how it affects you get in touch with your social worker