

# Authorising carers to make certain decisions

Information for young people

This sheet tells you about your carer being authorised to make decisions about particular things relating to you, while you are in their care. It will help you understand the types of decisions your carer can make and where you can get answers if you have any questions.

## What types of decisions can be made?

Your carer may need to make particular decisions about you while they are looking after you. Unless there is a care by Secretary or long-term care order in place, these will be decisions about short-term things, like signing a school excursion form, doing after school activities, or taking you to the doctor or dentist. It might also be about things like haircuts. It is important that your carer can do this, so these things can happen when you need them.

## What about long-term things?

If the Children's Court has made a care by Secretary or long term care order for you, then your carer may be able to make some long-term decisions. They can show you which ones, and talk to you about them. Otherwise, your parents' agreement is needed about long-term things, unless the court says it isn't.

## How can I find out what my carer can decide about?

Your carer has a piece of paper called an 'instrument of authorisation' or a standard instrument of authorisation. It lists the things your carer can decide about. Your carer can show it to you.

A copy of the authorisation form might also be given to your school for their files. This should help them accept your carer's signature on forms you have to return to school.

## What if I have any questions?

If you have any questions, ask your carer. You are also welcome to ask your case worker.

Your case worker is: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_