



Centre for Research in
Education Inclusion
and Diversity



Post-school Transitions of People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

The project

- Commissioned by the NDCS in 2012
- Its aim is to investigate the post-school transition process for young people who are deaf or hard of hearing
- The team
 - Professor Sheila Riddell
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Context of the research

- The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004
- Scottish Government report on the implementation of the ASL Act (2012)
- *The Doran Review* (Scottish Government, 2012)
- *Post-16 Transitions Policy and Practice Framework* (Scottish Government, 2012)
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Methods

- An analysis of policy and legislation
- An analysis of official statistics
- In-depth interviews with thirty young people aged 18-24



In-depth interviews

- School background
- Post-school transition planning
- Experiences of post-16 education, training and employment
- Personal background: identity and social capital



Key findings

- Good level of support in schools, but some inconsistency across local authorities
- Most commonly cited difficulties in school were related to social adjustment
- Most respondents did not have transition plans
- Young people from socially-advantaged backgrounds managed their own transitions



Transitions to adult audiology

- High level of care of paediatric audiology
- Some complaints about adult services:
 - waiting times
 - less frequent and less thorough check-ups
 - different hearing aids
 - no named person
 - lack of deaf awareness



Case study: Jack, HE graduate

'It's one of the least deaf aware places I've ever been.'

'[Adult audiology] will just leave you for weeks and they don't seem geared up to understand that I might have a job or be at university or that I might be utterly reliant on my hearing aid. '

'That's been the biggest issue of the transition for me.'



Nature of transitions

- Several transitions at the same time → ‘black hole’
- Multi-agency partnerships
- Developments in policy and legislation
- Funding
- Young person’s hopes and aspirations
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Thank you for listening!

For more information about the project
and our forthcoming dissemination seminar please
visit

[http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-
departments/education/rke/centres-
groups/creid/projects/postsch-trans-young-hi](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/postsch-trans-young-hi)

