

## What is the role of Connexions?

There are 47 Connexions Partnerships covering England. They provide guidance to all 13–19 year-olds about moving on to what they want to be in life. Each school will have at least one Connexions personal adviser who can give impartial information and guidance on choosing courses in school, mapping future career options, relationships, finance, housing, health, developing hobbies and interests, and other issues which may influence an individual's progress in learning. They work closely with schools and colleges to meet young people's individual needs and there will be a referral system which staff can use to ensure that young people have access to the help they need, when they need it.

In year 9, Connexions personal advisers may work with a small number of learners:

- with whom they have already started to work on other issues;
- with statements of special educational needs;
- referred to them by the school, including those who want to follow a strongly vocational route.

In year 11:

School staff will continue to play the significant role they had in Year 9;

- Connexions personal advisers are likely to see a higher proportion of learners in Year 10 and 11 than in Year 9, as the range of choices is so much wider;
- FE and sixth form college admissions tutors, and staff from work-based training organisations will also contribute to the information, and guidance offered.

[Extracted from *Informing Choices* (QCA, 2005)]

