

1

Background

Rayyan was a care leaver who arrived in the UK from South-Central Asia as an Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child (UASC). In 2019 as a teenager, Rayyan was accommodated under Sec 20 Children Act 1989. Rayyan sadly died in 2021 due to life limiting health conditions including osteosarcoma of the right leg.

2

Use of Interpreters

Consideration should always be given to ensuring that there is an interpreter with the appropriate language skills, available to staff of all agencies. This is required to enable communication and dialogue in respect to complex health issues, treatment and decision making. Agencies should only use interpreter services that are commissioned and have contractual safeguarding standards. Double appointments are to be considered to ensure sufficient understanding of complex information. In line with best practice, appropriate record keeping is necessary.

3

Consistent pain presentations

When a UASC presents with any form of pain, appropriate investigations like blood tests, x-rays and scans etc, should be organised by the examining medical professional, at the earliest, to rule out any underlying pathology.

4

Professional Curiosity

A review of information held by agencies should be considered using the lens of professional curiosity. This includes any presenting physical or mental health issues.

5

Understanding health services/ NHS

All UASC and other newly arrived asylum seekers should be provided with an information pack with details on health services and how they are able to access them. This should support them to navigate the NHS and UK health and social care systems.



7

Resources

For more information, click on the links below:

For information on [MSP training courses / e-learning](#)

Transitions: [Transition Planning Team | Help & Support Manchester](#)

Interpreters [m-four Translations](#)

6

Transitions

Agencies should ensure that a referral to the Transitions Planning Team is made at the earliest opportunity. Gateways to the Transition Planning Team include referral via the Education and Health Care planning process, a referral from the Children's social work service or a referral via the ASC contact centre.