



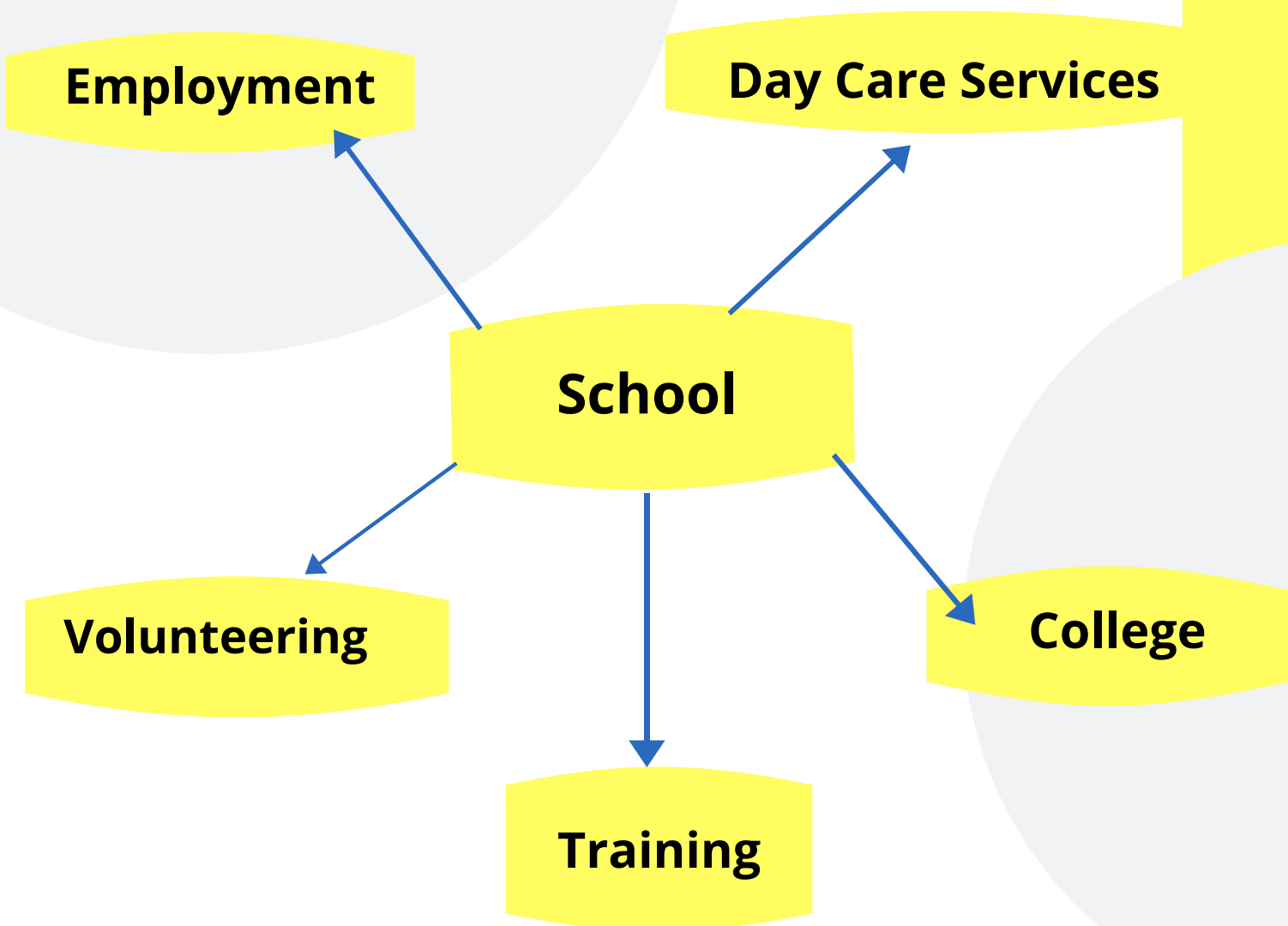
**Independent  
Advocacy:  
A guide for you  
leaving school**



# Remember that you are not alone...

As a young person getting ready to leave school there will be meetings happening to help you to plan for your future.

An advocacy worker will support you to attend these meetings, they will meet with you before the meetings and get to know you and your hopes for the future.



# What does an advocacy worker do?

An advocacy worker is there to work alongside you making sure you understand what is being discussed and what happens next. Advocacy workers are there to ensure that you feel listened to and included in the discussion, involved in decisions and that more importantly your voice is being heard. An advocacy worker will help you to think about all the options.

## Why do I need advocacy?

Advocacy is not there to take away the role of your teachers, parents or carers: advocacy workers know that there are lots of important people involved in your life. We are there to support you and be at your side helping you to explore all your options.



# TO FIND OUT MORE...

Ceartas have been actively involved with Merkland and the teaching staff since 2015. We can either come visit you at school or you can contact us:

Phone: 0141 775 0433

Email: [info@ceartas.org.uk](mailto:info@ceartas.org.uk)

Web: [www.ceartas.org.uk](http://www.ceartas.org.uk)