

Name of school _____



Seriously Awkward petition- via assemblies.org.uk

Because of their awkward age, the most vulnerable 16 and 17 year olds are falling through the cracks of childhood and adulthood. They are being let down by the law and not getting the same basic protections as younger children to keep them safe. That's not just awkward, it's seriously awkward.

Call on the Government to change the law to ensure 16 and 17 year olds are fully protected when they are at risk of harm, abuse or neglect.

We urge the Government to introduce better legal protection for 16 and 17 year olds. The Government should conduct a full review of relevant legislation and ensure that vulnerable 16 and 17 year olds are fully protected from risk of harm and exploitation. In particular, the Government should:

- Raise the age of a victim of child cruelty and neglect from 16 to 18, so 16 and 17 year olds living at home have the same protection as younger children
- Amend housing laws to ensure that 16 and 17 year olds at risk of homelessness can never be evicted from their accommodation and become 'intentionally homeless'
- Raise the age for Child Abduction Warning Notices from 16 to 18, to ensure that the police can intervene where vulnerable 16 and 17 year olds are targeted by predatory adults for the purposes of exploitation, either of a sexual or criminal nature

Title	First name	Surname	Address	Postcode	Email Address	under 18?	Tick here to stay in touch via email / phone / post*		
							@	☎	✉
Mr	Joe	Bloggs	26 Somewhere street	S1 2BY	j.bloggs@email.com	✓	✓	✓	✓

*Yes, I'm happy for The Children's Society to contact me about how I can support vulnerable children by campaigning, raising awareness and providing financial support

