

Answer sheet

1. **Buy cigarettes** – Under the Licensing Act, it is illegal to sell tobacco products to 16- and 17-year-olds.
2. **Get married** – Young people aged 16 and 17 can only get married with the consent of responsible adults.
3. **Buy alcohol** – It is illegal to sell alcohol to under-18s, but if you are 16, you can drink a beer, wine or cider with a meal in a pub or restaurant if you are with an adult.
4. **Drive a car** – As long as you have passed your driving test and are properly insured, you can drive at 17.
5. **No longer be protected by child cruelty laws** – Under the Children and Young Persons Act 1933, an adult cannot be prosecuted for cruelty to a child aged 16 or 17.
6. **Be evicted from accommodation and become intentionally homeless** – Young people aged 16 or 17 who are at risk of homelessness can get access to housing under the Housing Act, but it does not offer any additional protections, unless you agree to become a 'looked after' child.
7. **Rent a house** – Young people aged 16 can rent accommodation, but a guarantor (an adult who can be responsible for them) is required for everyone under 18.
8. **Give blood** – Most people over 17 can give blood as long as they are fit and healthy.
9. **Consent to sex** – However, if you're 17 and under, it is an offence for someone in a position of trust who is 18 or over to engage in any kind of sexual activity with you.
10. **Be interviewed by the police without an adult present** – Young people aged 17 can be interviewed by the police without an adult present, given a reprimand or given a warning.
11. **Receive the same benefits as adults living independently** – In exceptional circumstances where 16- and 17-year-olds can claim benefits, their entitlements are different to adults and they get less.
12. **Apply for a private pilot's licence** – Young people aged 17 can also apply for a private pilot's licence for a helicopter or hot air balloon.
13. **Be recognised as a child under the Children Act 1989.**
14. **Join the army** – You can join the army at 16, but your parents have to give their consent.
15. **Get the same mental health support as younger teens** – In some parts of the country, mental health services for young people are offered up to the age of 16; in other parts, they can be offered up to 18 or 25 years of age.
16. **No longer be fully protected by the police from exploitation by predatory adults** – Police can use a tool called a 'Child Abduction Warning Notice' to prevent an exploitative adult coming into contact with a child, but it can only be used to protect children under 16.
17. **Buy a pet** – You have to be over 16 to buy a pet.
18. **Buy fireworks** – It is also illegal for under-18s to possess fireworks in a public place.

19. **Consent to dental treatment** – Young people over 16 have the right to give consent to medical, dental and surgical treatment. This includes contraceptive advice and treatment.