



THE MIX

Talking to your parents about the EU Settlement Scheme

What you and your family need to know about living in Britain



If you're reading this, you're obviously thinking about how you'll be affected when Britain leaves the EU. You might also be worried about your family and concerned they don't have enough information. This should help you find out what you need to know and how to speak to your family about it.



The basics



- If you're from a country in the European Union, from Iceland, Liechtenstein or Norway (countries in the European Economic Area) or from Switzerland, you'll need to apply to the European Settlement Scheme by 30th June, 2021 if you want to continue living in Britain.
- Everyone in your family, including the children will need to apply, unless they're a British citizen or from Ireland. Children aren't automatically included when their parent applies to the EU settlement scheme.
- If you're over 16, you can apply to the scheme yourself.
- If you're under 21, you can still link your application to an application made by a parent or guardian if you wish.
- If you're over 21 and still financially dependent on your family you can also link your application to that of a parent or guardian.

Parents and grandparents



For a person to count as your parent under the EU Settlement Scheme, they can be your biological mother or father, your adoptive parent, your step-parent, your grandparent or great-grandparent.

If your parents are applying to the settlement scheme on your behalf, they will need to apply for themselves first and then link your application to theirs. When they're filling their digital forms, they should remember to save the 16-digit application number generated by the system, so that they can use it when it's time to add your application to theirs. However, if you'll qualify for settled status and they will only qualify for pre-settled status, it's worth applying separately.

If you're under 16, your parent will still need to apply on your behalf, even if the applications aren't linked.

When your parent is applying, they will be asked for evidence that you're their child. This will mean:

Birth certificate

If your grandparent or great-grandparent is applying they will also need birth certificates to prove their relationship to your parent.

Adoption certificate

An adoption certificate or guardianship order.

Family permit

This is an immigration document which allowed family members of people from the European Economic Area to join them in Britain.

Marriage or civil partnership certificate

If your step-parent is applying, they will also need to provide their marriage or civil partnership certificate.

Anyone applying on behalf of a child will also need to prove that the child lives in the UK. Proof can include:

- A child benefit or child tax credit letter
- Evidence from a nursery, school, college or university
- A letter from a health visitor or your GP

Pregnancy



If you, or anyone in your family, is pregnant they should apply for the settlement scheme before giving birth. If they get settled status before the baby is born and the baby is born in Britain, then the baby will automatically become a British citizen.

How to talk to your family



It doesn't matter what age you are, telling your older family members what to do can often be complicated, but there are ways you can make it easier.

First, be sure about what you need to say to them.



Your parents might think they do not need to apply, especially if they have lived in Britain for a long time, but they do need to, for themselves and for you.

They may also think that having a permanent residence document means they don't need to apply, but they will still need to do so.

You may also need to translate English documents for them



This can be difficult, especially when you're trying to translate legal terms or language used by the government that you're not familiar with.

You could ask for help



from a family friend, a teacher or one of the organisations listed in the Extra help section below. You can also find the government advice translated into different languages here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-translated-information-materials>

Don't get angry



listen to what they have to say and then show them what you've read and learned about. Tell them where you've found your information and why you trust the place you've found it.

Ask what your parents have found out about staying in Britain.



They may have information from their employer or a community group. Ask if you can read this too, especially if it is written in English and this is not your family's first language.

Explain that you're worried...



and you want your family to help you. People in general, and older relatives particularly, often respond better when asked for help rather than being told to do something.

You may need to have more than one conversation with them.



Don't be discouraged if your first attempt doesn't convince them and do remind your family that all of you will need to have applied to the EU Settlement Scheme by 30th June 2021.

Extra help



You can find articles on The Mix about immigration status and applying for the settlement scheme.

You can find the official government guidance here:

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

The Citizen's Advice Bureau has a guide to staying in the UK here:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/immigration/staying-in-the-uk-after-brexit/staying-in-the-uk-if-youre-from-the-eu/>

You can also contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau to talk on the phone or see them in person. Their website also has a chat function where you can speak to a person online. You can find both here:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/contact-us/contact-us/>

Here for Good are a charity who offer free legal advice on immigration:

<https://www.hereforgoodlaw.org>

The 3 Million are an organisation who campaign for migrants' rights. They have a group especially for young Europeans living in Britain. You can find out more about it here:

<https://www.the3million.org.uk/young-europeans>