



Somerset

Special Educational Needs & Disability  
Information, Advice & Support  
(SENDIAS)

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## **A Young Person's Guide to Education, Health and Care (EHC) Needs Assessments and Plans**



# This leaflet tells you about Education, Health and Care Assessments and Plans.



You may like to get someone to **help you to read** this leaflet or to explain it to you.



## What this leaflet will help with

Meanings of important words are explained at the start of the leaflet.



For more help, advice and support on the information in this leaflet you can contact:

### Somerset SENDIAS

 01823 355578

 [info@somersetsend.org.uk](mailto:info@somersetsend.org.uk)

 [www.somersetsend.org.uk](http://www.somersetsend.org.uk)

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### Careers South West

 01823 282955

 [somersetindependentsupport@cswwgroup.co.uk](mailto:somersetindependentsupport@cswwgroup.co.uk)

 [www.cswwgroup.co.uk](http://www.cswwgroup.co.uk)

or go to:

### Somerset's Local Offer

for information and local services

 [www.somersetchoices.org.uk](http://www.somersetchoices.org.uk)

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## Meanings

Important words in this leaflet are explained below:

<b>SEND</b>	Special Educational Needs and Disability
<b>Child</b>	A child is aged under 16 years of age. This includes babies and infants.
<b>Young person</b>	A young person is aged 16 to 25 and is considered over compulsory school age.
<b>Parent carer</b>	A parent carer is someone who has a parenting and caring responsibility for a child or young person.
<b>Appendix A</b>	This is the form that children, young people and parent carers use when asking for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment.
<b>Education, Health and Care Plan</b>	An Education Health and Care Plan is a document that says what help a child or young person who has SEND should get and how they should get this help. This used to be called a Statement.
<b>Aspiration</b>	The hopes, wishes or dreams of a child, young person or their parent carer.
<b>Outcome</b>	An outcome is the way something turns out or the end result.
<b>Local authority</b>	This is the group of people who look after things in a local area like services to support children and young people. Somerset County Council is the local authority responsible for services in Somerset.
<b>Personal Budget within an Education, Health &amp; Care Plan</b>	This is the amount of money which Somerset County Council sets aside for a young person in their Education, Health and Care Plan. Parent carers and young people have a right to know their own Personal Budget.

## Direct Payment

This is the payment which young people or parent carers may get so they can choose and buy the services needed in the Education, Health and Care Plan, instead of getting them from the local authority.

## Education, Health & Care Needs Assessment

This assessment looks at the extra help children and young people with SEND might need in their life. This includes getting reports from different services who help and support a child or young person.

## SEND Casework Team

The local authority team that manages the process for Education, Health and Care Plans and processes.

## SEND Panel

The group of professional people from education, health and social care who make decisions about Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments and Plans.

## SENDIAS

An information, advice and support service about special educational needs and disabilities for parent carers, children and young people (aged 0-25). Independent Supporters work in SENDIAS.

## Statement

A document that used to be given to children and young people with special educational needs who needed a lot of support. This has been replaced by the Education, Health and Care Plan.

## Learning Disability Assessment

This assessment for learning needs used to be given to young people in further education or training. It may be replaced by the Education, Health and Care Plan.

## Independent Supporter

A trained worker in SENDIAS or Careers South West who helps parent carers and young people when they ask for an Education, Health and Care Plan.



**Note:** in other leaflets, Education, Health and Care Plan may be referred to as **EHC Plan**



## What is an Education, Health and Care Plan?

You might need extra help in school, college or training to help you learn.

When a child or young person needs a lot of extra help, a legal document is needed to make sure they are given help to learn.

This legal document is called an **Education, Health and Care Plan**.

If you have a health need, such as a physical or medical condition that means you need help to learn, you may be able to get an Education, Health and Care Plan.

What you think is very important in this process and you or your parent carers must be able to share your thoughts about the help you want in your life.

You might be asked to make decisions about:

- What help you need
- The school or college you want to go to
- What you want to do in the future

If you are 16 years old or older, you will be the main person making decisions. You may want to ask your parent carer(s) to help you with this (but you don't have to if you don't want to).





## Who can have one?

Education Health and Care Plans may be given to children and young people aged 0 to 25 years of age.

You may get one if:

You have a special educational need or a disability that means you need a lot of extra support to help you learn

**and**

Your school or college may not be able to give you all of the support you need to make educational progress.

If you are 18 or older, you might need an Education, Health and Care Plan to make sure you can finish your education or training.





## What information is in an Education, Health and Care Plan?

An Education, Health and Care Plan has 11 sections:

- Section A: Your address/details

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- Section B: Your SEND needs

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- Section C: Your health needs

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- Section D: Your social care needs

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- Section E: Your short-term targets and longer-term outcomes

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- Section F: Your educational support

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- Section G: Your health support (if you have a Health Care Plan it will be included here)

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- Section H: Your social care support

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- Section I: Name and type of nursery, school or post-16 setting

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- Section J: Personal Budget and any Direct Payments for your education.

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- Section K: List of the advice and information gathered during an Education, Health and Care assessment.

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If you get an Education, Health and Care Plan the local authority **must provide the support described in the Plan.**



**Note:** Sections B, F and I are the only sections that you can appeal if you do not agree with the information.

## Asking for an assessment

Asking for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment should be talked over with the young person's school or educational setting so it can help with giving information and supporting the process.

Young people will be asked for their thoughts and views of their needs and support, as part of the process.

Young people can ask for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment if they are aged between 16 and 25 years old.




### Other people who can ask for you are:

- Your parents or carers
- Your school
- People who support you, like doctors or teachers

You can ask for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment by contacting the **SEND Casework Team**:

 01823 359683

 [statutoryassessment@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:statutoryassessment@somerset.gov.uk)

 SEND Casework Team  
County Hall  
Taunton  
TA1 4DY





## Help and Guidance

If you need help asking for an Education, Health and Care Assessment, an **Independent Supporter** can help you.


The **Independent Supporter** will help you to complete a form called **Appendix A**.

### An Independent Supporter can:

1. Support young people asking for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment  
**and**
2. Support young people changing from a Statement  
**or**  
from a Learning Disability Assessment to an Education, Health and Care Plan.

In Somerset, an **Independent Supporter** is available through two organisations working together: **SENDIAS** and **Careers South West**.

To ask for **Independent Support** in Somerset:

 01823 282955

 [somersetindependentsupport@cswgroup.co.uk](mailto:somersetindependentsupport@cswgroup.co.uk)

Delivering  
**independent  
support**





## Education

### **School/college SENCO (SEN Co-ordinator)**

# Some of the people who could be involved when you ask for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment

A teacher who makes sure that students with special educational needs or disabilities get the support they need.

### **Independent Supporter**

A trained worker who can support you or your family during an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment.

### **Casework Officer from SEND Casework Team**

Someone who manages the process for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments and Education, Health and Care Plan.

### **Educational Psychologist**

Someone who has specialist training to look at how a child or young person can be better supported to learn.

### **Specialist teacher**

A teacher who has specialist training and skills in supporting students with SEND.

### **Occupational Therapist\***

A health worker who helps people when they have an injury, illness or disability, to manage daily tasks and activities.

### **Speech and Language Therapist\***

A health worker who provides treatment, support and care for children and young people who have difficulties with communication, or with eating, drinking and swallowing.

\* Note these services may come under your education or your health provision in your EHC Plan.



## Health

### General Practitioner (GP)

A doctor who looks after the general health needs of people in a local area.

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### Paediatrician

A specialist doctor who looks after children and young people.

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### Physiotherapist

A health worker who helps to improve physical movement for people with an injury, illness or physical disability.

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## Care

### Social Worker

Someone who works for Somerset County Council and helps children, young people and their families to have better lives.

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## What to expect when asking for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment:

You will be asked to write down your thoughts and views about your needs and the support you need to help you learn and achieve your aspirations. This will be included in the document called Appendix A.



### Writing

**If the SEND Panel agree to an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment:** lots of people will think about your needs, and give their views about how to help and support you.

**If the SEND Panel does not agree to an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment or to issue an Education, Health and Care Plan:** if you do not agree with this decision, you can ask the local authority to rethink its decision. SENDIAS can help you with this.

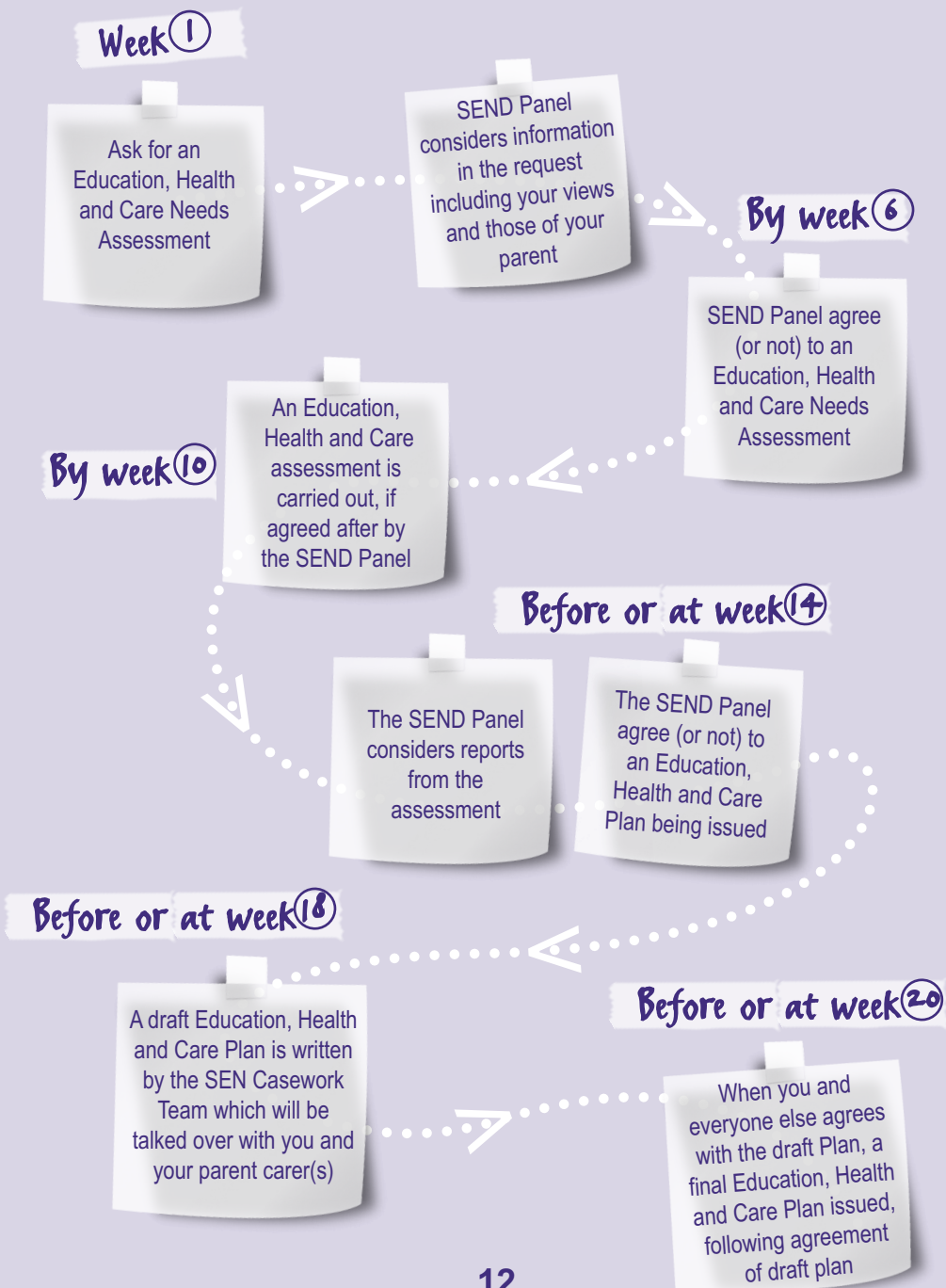
For more information please see our **Disagreement Resolution and Mediation** leaflet.



**For more help, advice and support about the information in this leaflet please see page 1.**

# How can I get an Education, Health and Care Plan?

The process is shown in the diagram below



## Somerset SENDIAS

The Holway Centre  
Byron Road  
Taunton  
TA1 2JD



01823 355578



info@somersetsend.org.uk



www.somersetsend.org.uk

To share your comments  
on this leaflet



info@somersetsend.org.uk

**Special thanks** to Together at Group (TAG)  
and The Young People's Engagement and  
Participation Team in creating this leaflet.

## Working together for equalities

This document is also available in Braille,  
large print, tape and on disc and we can  
translate it into different languages.



RNID typetalk

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