

How Can We Help?

Our Special Educational Needs (SEN) team can advise parents on a wide range of issues regarding the area of special educational needs law for children and young people.

Please read below for some of the situations we can assist with and look overleaf for a glossary of SEN definitions.

- Requesting an EHC needs assessment and the statutory assessment process
- Review contents of EHCP's and advise whether drafting is legally enforceable
- Prepare for EHCP Annual/interim Reviews
- Attend meetings with schools and the Local Authority to provide advocacy support
- Advise on issues of disability discrimination in relation to education
- Advise on rights of appeal to the SEND Tribunal
- Preparation for and representation at the SEND Tribunal
- Advise on legal issues when the Local Authority are not meeting their responsibilities
- Advice regarding Post 16 and Post 19 SEND Provisions
- Drafting working documents of EHCPs in Tribunal appeal
- Liaising with the Local Authority to resolve issues

Is your child getting the support that they are entitled to?

If you believe that the provision in your child's EHCP is not being delivered or that your child is in the incorrect placement for their needs there are statutory processes that we can follow to ensure that your child is supported suitably.

"Knowledgeable, professional, approachable, empathetic and tenacious. The best possible outcome was achieved for our daughter. Five-star service!"

Glossary

Annual Review/Interim Review – the statutory requirement for an EHCP to be reviewed by the Local Authority and school once a year or more frequently if required

CHC – Continuing Health Care provision

CSD – Children’s Services Department

EHCP – Education, Health and Care Plan

LGSCO – Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman

Local Authority - an organisation that is officially responsible for all the public services and facilities in a particular area... Eg Hampshire County Council, Southampton City Council

SAR – Subject Access Request is the process by which you can apply for disclosure of yours or your child’s personal data under the Data Protection Act

SEN Code of Practice - This is the statutory guidance that supports Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014. It tells local authorities, early years settings, schools, colleges, health and social care providers and others what they must and should do to identify, assess and provide for children and young people with SEN or disabilities.

SEND Tribunal – First Tier Tribunal in Special Educational Needs and Disability. The Tribunal hears appeals from parents of children with SEN, and young people with SEN, about EHC needs assessments and EHC plans. The Tribunal also hears claims of disability discrimination under the Equality Act 2010.

Statutory assessment / EHC needs assessment – the process by which the Local Authority assess your child’s special educational needs in accordance with the Children and Families Act 2014 to determine if they need to issue an EHCP

Working Document – The draft of your child or Young Person’s EHCP setting out amendments you want to be made using the SEND Tribunal key system

What next?

If you need any more information please contact a member of our Special Educational Needs team for assistance on 01962 844 544 or email main@shentons.co.uk