

EDUCATION

EHCP — Questions to Ask

Questions for the SENCO and the local authority. Print before any meeting.

Questions for the school SENCO

- 1 What specific SEN support is in place for my child right now?
- 2 Is there a written SEN support plan with measurable targets? Can I have a copy?
- 3 When was the last assess–plan–do–review cycle completed?
- 4 What outcomes have you seen and what has not worked?
- 5 At what point would the school request an EHC needs assessment?
- 6 Would you support a parental request for an EHC needs assessment?
- 7 Who is the named SEN governor and how do I contact them?

Questions for the local authority

- 1 How do I formally request an EHC needs assessment?
- 2 What is your statutory timeframe and where in it are we?
- 3 Who is the named caseworker for our child?
- 4 If you decline to assess, what is the route to mediation and tribunal?
- 5 Where can I get free independent advice (SENDIASS) in this borough?
- 6 How is provision in the draft EHCP specified and quantified?
- 7 How will outcomes be measured and reviewed?

Key rights to remember

- You can request an EHC needs assessment yourself — you do not need the school's permission.
- The local authority must respond within 6 weeks to your request.
- If they refuse, you can appeal to the SEND Tribunal.
- Provision in Section F must be specific and quantified — “regular support” is not lawful wording.