

Mediation and Tribunal Information Sheet

Are you aged 16 – 25?

Do you have **Special Educational Needs**, or have a **Disability** (SEND)?

Special Educational Needs are when you need extra support to learn things.



Are you not happy with the **support** you get for your SEND? For example: you don't agree with what is written in your EHCP in section B, F and I.

The law says that you can get support if you have a **disagreement** with your **school, college, Local Authority or Health provider**.

Most people who are **16 years old** and have finished **year 11** can make their own decisions about what support they want.



If you would like a parent, carer, friend or advocate to help you instead of you doing it, that is ok. It is up to you, but you will need to let the mediation service know this, so they know your **voice** has been heard in this process.

Mediation helps people to sort things out that they don't agree about. The mediation service **does not take sides** and does not tell you what to **decide**. They are **confidential**. They will only tell other people what you have said to us **if you say it is OK**, but they may have to tell somebody if we think you may be in **danger**.



The service will set up a meeting **where everybody** can talk about the help you need, they will ask you who you want to invite, someone from service you wish to have a meeting has to attend.



A person (the Mediator) asks you what you are not happy about and what you want to change. The Mediator also speaks to the people who you do not agree with. This is so the Mediator **understands the problem** from all sides. You will be at that meeting. and can have your say. The Mediator makes sure that everyone stays calm and listens to what everyone says.

The Mediator helps everybody to work out a **solution**. This is called the **agreement**. The Agreement is written by the Mediator and everybody signs their name.

If you don't want to go through mediation **you don't have to**, you just have to consider it. You can contact the mediation service to request a mediation certificate and then you have **2 months** to apply to the **SEND tribunal**.

Appealing to SEND Tribunal: This is a legal process overseen by a judge. You will be asked to provide your reasons why you disagree and written proof to support your view. You can call witnesses to assist your view such as a school or college tutor, a carer or personal assistant. Your parents can act as your representative **with your permission**.

