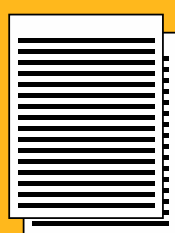


How to appeal to the SEND TRIBUNAL

The thought of having to appeal against a decision made in your EHC plan by your Local Authority can seem quite daunting. Our SENDIASS service will support and advise you in your decision to appeal against any decision regarding your child's SEN.

1

Preparing your tribunal bundle



Prepare the documents you would like to produce to support your case in advance.

This will make it easier for you to prepare your tribunal bundle which is everything you have gathered to support your case.

2

Getting support



- **Legal aid** - You do not need a lawyer to appeal in a SEND Tribunal. However, if you want legal support you may be entitled to public funding (Legal Aid) in preparing for your appeal.

- **Witnesses** – You can bring witnesses to the Tribunal however you must inform SEND Tribunal on the attendance form.

3

Appealing: Completing the appeal form



When you send your appeal form you are required to send copies of all your supporting documents and information for the SEND Tribunal.

4

After you send your appeal form



SEND Tribunal will tell you that the appeal has been registered within 10 working days of the receipt and you should be issued:

- ✓ Case directions
- ✓ An attendance form
- ✓ A case management questionnaire

5

The hearing



You are not required to attend the SEND Tribunal hearing however you may want to consider attending, as the panel will want to ask you relevant questions.

At least 10 working days before the hearing you will be informed of the venue and exact time of the hearing.

6

After the hearing



You should receive the decision of the SEND Tribunal within 10 working days after the hearing.

If you disagree with the decision made by the First-Tier Tribunal you can make an application for permission to appeal the decision.

What is the First-Tier Tribunal (SEND)?

It is an independent national tribunal which hears parents' and young people's appeals against the Local Authority's decisions about the Special Educational Needs of children and young people.

What is a SEND Tribunal appeal?

Unlike going to court, there are no fees involved. The SEND Tribunal has the power to order your LA (Local Authority) to carry out EHC assessments, issue EHC plans, and amend existing EHC plans. The LA must comply with the SEND Tribunal.

For more information contact: www.kids.org.uk/sendiaass

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 Giving disabled children a brighter future