

Contents appeal

For a contents appeal, the Local Authority has issued an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), either following an EHC needs assessment or as a result of an annual review. However, there is disagreement about the contents of the plan, including whether it accurately identifies the child or young person's special educational needs, specifies the provision required to meet those needs, and/or names an appropriate educational placement. The key question for the Tribunal is whether the EHCP accurately and fully reflects the child or young person's needs and contains the provision and placement necessary to secure appropriate educational progress and outcomes.

Section B

To appeal Section B, evidence should demonstrate:

- Missing needs.
- Understated needs.
- Newly identified needs.
- Difficulties affecting learning, communication, social interaction, emotional wellbeing, sensory processing or independence.
- Needs identified by professionals but omitted from the EHCP.

Section F

To appeal Section B, evidence should demonstrate:

- Exactly what provision is required.
- How often provision should be delivered.
- Who should deliver it.
- The level of adult support required.
- Any specialist teaching programmes.
- Required therapy provision.
- Required specialist equipment.
- Required staff training.

Section I

Evidence may include:

- Information from the current school.
- Information from the proposed school.
- School consultations.
- Evidence that a placement cannot meet need.
- Evidence that a specialist setting is required.
- Evidence showing the child would be incompatible with the education of others if the current placement continued.
- Evidence demonstrating why a preferred placement is suitable.

Educational Evidence

- School reports showing lack of progress.
- Attainment data demonstrating the child is significantly behind peers.
- SEN Support plans and provision maps.
- Evidence of interventions already tried.

- Records of support currently being provided.
- Attendance records.
- Exclusion records.
- Evidence of emotionally based school avoidance (EBSA).
- Statements from teaching staff and the SENCO regarding unmet needs.
- Evidence that ordinary school resources are insufficient

Professional Assessments

- Educational Psychology reports
- Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) assessments
- Occupational Therapy (OT) reports
- Physiotherapy reports
- CAMHS or mental health assessments
- Private assessments (if LA assessments are lacking or disputed)

Health and Medical Evidence

- GP letters or consultant reports
- Diagnosis letters (e.g. autism, ADHD, dyslexia)
- Medication records or impact statements
- Hospital discharge summaries (if relevant)

Voice of the Child

- Child's views (written, video, or recorded)
- Drawings or letters expressing preferences or concerns
- Voice of the Child work completed with professionals

Parent Evidence

- Parent statements detailing lived experience
- Chronology of events (e.g. missed support, exclusions)
- Emails or letters to/from the LA or school
- Diary entries or logs of incidents or unmet needs

Social Care evidence

- Child and family assessment
- Family support plans whether for Team around the Family or Child in need meetings
- Social care assessments

Placement Evidence

- School prospectuses or websites
- Visit notes from preferred schools
- Cost breakdowns (especially for independent placements)
- Funding agreements or refusal letters

Legal and Procedural Evidence

- SAR (Subject Access Request) responses
- Complaint outcomes (school or LA)
- Tribunal correspondence (case directions, deadlines)

- Previous Tribunal decisions (if relevant)