

Applying for an Education, Health & Care (EHC) Assessment

A guide for families

Children & Young People's Services



Introduction

If your child is between the ages of 0 – 25 and has significant learning difficulties, he or she might need an Education, Health and Care assessment.

The process is centred around the child or young person and you will be involved in making decisions about their support across education, health and care.

Who can request an Education, Health and Care assessment?

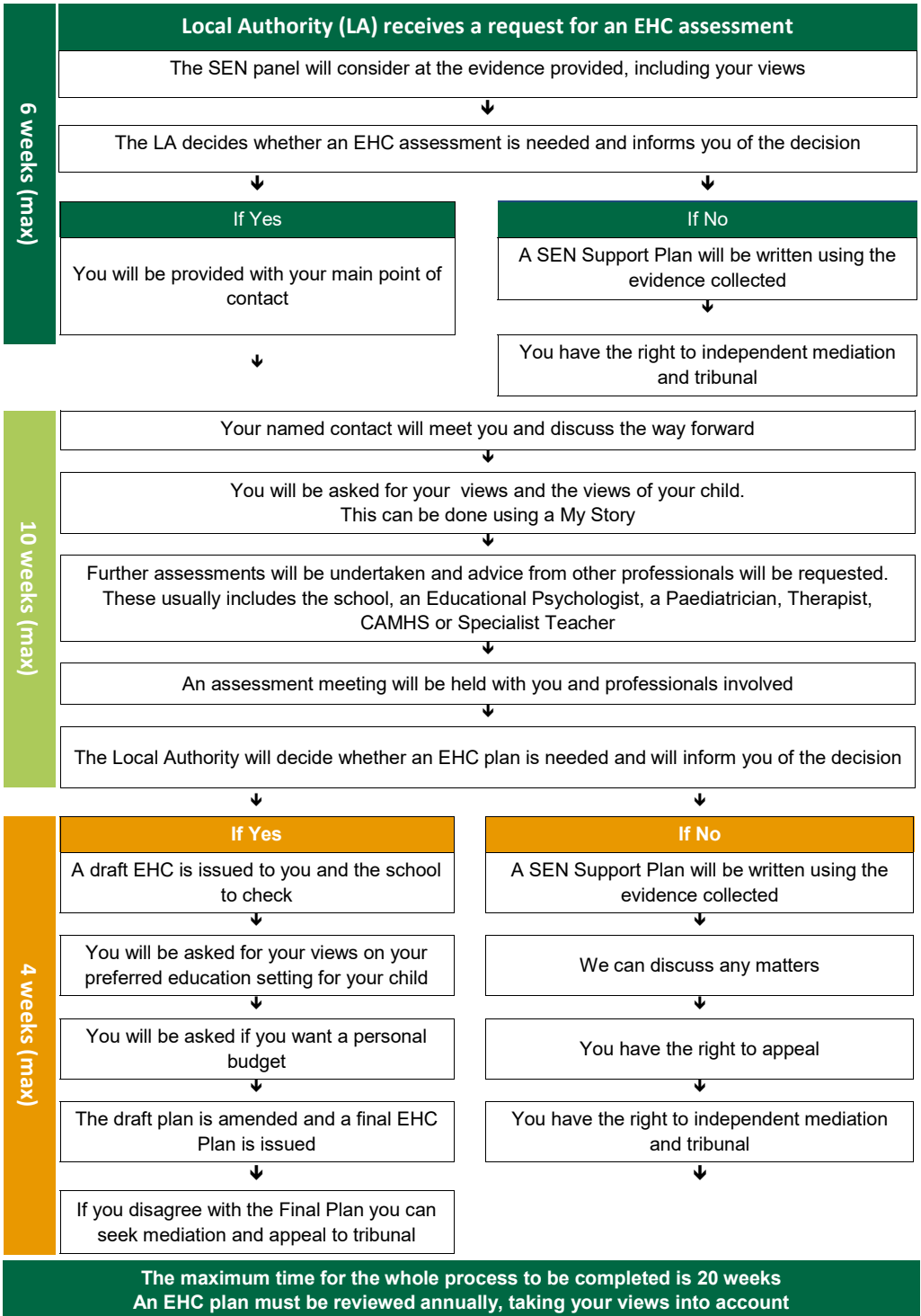
- A parent/carer, or their advocate.
- A young person over the age of 16.
- An Early Years setting, school or Further Education college.

In addition, anyone else can inform the Local Authority that a child might have a special educational need.

What does an assessment mean?

- The assessment will cover the educational, health and care needs of your child.
- You and your child will be at the centre of the process and your views on how, when and to what extent you would like to engage, are important and will be taken into account.
- At the end of the assessment, either a SEN Support Plan or an Education, Health and Care Plan will be issued. Each one will detail the needs of your child, the outcomes that we all want your child to achieve and the support arrangements. The SEN Support Plan does not have the same legal status but we want to ensure that the needs of those children are also met in school, from the funding that has been allocated to the school.

Education, Health & Care Assessment - the process



Useful contacts

SEND, Looked After & Vulnerable Groups Team

Children & Young People's Services
Early Help, Inclusion & Vulnerable Children
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UJ
Telephone: 03000 265 878

Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)

Children & Young People's Services
Lee House
Lee Terrace
Easington Village
SR8 3AB
Telephone: 0191 587 3541

Independent Mediation & Disagreement Service

Barnardo's Gateshead Disability & Inclusion Support Service (DAISS)
20 Bewick Road
Gateshead
Tyne & Wear
NE8 4DP
Telephone: 0191 4784 667
Email: daismediationservices@barnardos.org.uk