

Helpful Words

Information for Children and Young People with Additional Learning Needs



Your Right to make an Appeal or Claim



Children and Young people now have the **same** rights as their parents or carers to:



- Make an **appeal** or **claim** to SENTW (Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales)

What does this mean? Special Education Needs appeals

You can appeal if you disagree with certain decisions made by the Local Authority about your education or Special Educational Needs.



Disability Discrimination claims



You can make a claim about disability discrimination if you feel that you have been treated unfairly at school because of your disability.

Who can I speak to?

- Your School



- Local Authority (LA)

- SNAP Cymru



- SENTW (Special Educational Tribunal for Wales)

Tribiwnlys Anghenion
Addysgol Arbennig Cymru



Special Educational
Needs Tribunal for Wales

For more information, advice and support, please contact:

The Statutory Assessment and Liaison Officers on:

01443 744344

ALNAS@rctcbc.gov.uk

Helpful Words



<p>ALN/SEN</p>	<p>If you need extra help in school, it means that you have Additional Learning Needs (ALN) or Special Educational Needs (SEN). Lots of children receive extra help in school and you shouldn't worry if you need some too.</p>
<p>Disability</p>	<p>A disabled person could have difficulty walking, seeing, hearing or understanding things. You cannot always see a disability. Lots of disabled people have aid to help them do the things that they find difficult more easily.</p>
<p>Local authority</p>	<p>The local authority is an organisation that is responsible for lots of local services, including schools and many things to do with your education. Your local authority is Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.</p>
<p>Statutory assessment</p>	<p>An assessment is when as much information as possible is collected together, from lots of different people and places and a decision is made about what to do next. Statutory means that the law says that it must be done</p>
<p>Proposed</p>	<p>When something is proposed it is suggested. A proposed course of action will be thought about by everyone involved and, hopefully, they will all agree that the decisions that have been put forward are in everyone's best interests.</p>
<p>Amendment</p>	<p>Amendment is another word for change. If any of the people involved in the decisions do not agree with the proposed course of action, it can be amended to something slightly different.</p>
<p>Statement of special educational needs (SEN)</p>	<p>After the assessment has taken place, the local authority might decide that you need a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN). This is a document that includes details of what you need extra help with in school and how that help should be given.</p>



Annual review	If you do have a statement it will be reviewed; looked at regularly, to check that the details written in it are all still correct. Annual means once a year.
Appeal	Appeal means to challenge the decision that has been made about your education because you disagree with it. The word appeal also refers to the whole process of making this challenge, from saying that you disagree right up to possibly getting the decision looked at again.
Case friend	If you would like to make an appeal, or if you need help with any other part of the assessment process, you can ask a case friend to help you. A case friend can be someone you know well, such as a family member, carer, social worker or teacher.
Discrimination	Discrimination is when a person or group of people is treated unfairly by others because they are different in some way. This difference could be lots of things, such as disability.
Independent person / advocate	You can speak to an independent person or organisation (also known as an advocate or advocacy group) about any part of the process that you are unhappy with. The advocacy group that the local authority works with is SNAP Cymru.
Tribunal	A tribunal is a group of people that meet to make a decision about a disagreement. They listen to evidence from both sides and make a decision about who is right and who is wrong. A tribunal only happens when all other options have been tried.
Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales (SENTW)	If you do not agree with the decision that has been made about your education and have tried all other ways to agree on a decision, but are still unhappy, you can contact the Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales (SENTW), who will look at holding a tribunal about your case.

