

CHECKING YOUR DRAFT PLAN

Having prepared the draft Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) for your son/daughter it is now essential that you spend some time looking through this to ensure that it is an accurate reflection of your child's/young person's needs. You have 15 calendar days in which to make your representations for any changes to the Local Authority, representations made outside of this timeframe may not be considered. You are able to ask the Local Authority for a time extension if you feel that you need more than the 15 calendar days due to exceptional circumstances, e.g holidays; the need to take further advice.

The EHCP needs to be clear and concise. It will not include all the information that is included in the appendices. The EHCP gives a snapshot in time of your child's/young person's needs and provides clear guidance of their needs, the outcomes to be achieved within the next 12 months and the provision to meet these needs

Your final EHCP is a legally binding document and the provision on it must be provided

<p>What should I look for?</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There needs to be direct links through the aspirations, needs, outcomes and provision. This is known as 'the golden thread' ➤ Check the reports that contributed to the assessment, highlight the needs, outcomes and provision from these reports ➤ Are these detailed in the draft EHCP? ➤ All needs and outcomes should have a corresponding provision which should be quantified, specific and relevant to meeting the needs of your child ➤ Have you been offered a personal budget to deliver some of the provision within the plan? ➤ Consider what school/provision you want for your child as you will need to advise the Local Authority of this within this 15-day period
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What Happens Next?



- If you wish to give views or make representations on the content of the draft EHCP you should do so in writing within 15 days of receipt of the draft
- You can ask to meet with a Local Authority representative to discuss your requested amendments or concerns
- You can seek independent advice see 'Where can I get more information'
- If changes are suggested and agreed the draft EHCP will be amended and issued as the final EHCP as quickly as possible. The final EHCP can differ from the draft EHCP only as a result of the representations made by the child's parent or the young person (including a request for a personal budget) and decisions made about the educational setting (or type of educational setting) to be named in the EHC Plan
- When the Final EHCP is issued you will have your right of appeal

Where can I get more information?



- Leaflets enclosed
- School SENCO or SEND lead
- The Contact Centre, Children's Services – 0300 123 2224
- Somerset SENDIAS, SEND Information, Advice and Support - 01823 355578
SomersetSENDIAS@somerset.gov.uk
- Somerset Local Offer
<https://choices.somerset.gov.uk>
- IPSEA - www.ipsea.org.uk
- Contact – www.contact.org.uk.
Free helpline: 0808 808 3555