

# WHO CAN HELP WITH SEND LEGAL ADVICE?

## IPSEA

### Written by IPSEA;

By law, children and young people with SEND are entitled to educational support that meets their individual needs. Since IPSEA was formed in 1983, they have helped improve educational support for thousands of children with all kinds of SEND. They do this by providing free and independent, legally based information, advice and casework support.

### How IPSEA help

IPSEA has a suite of free downloadable legal guides and resources available to parents and carers. These guides are complemented by a free telephone Advice Line and Call-in Helpline, which provides legally based information and next step advice on any educational issue resulting from a child's SEND.

IPSEA's Tribunal Helpline gives next step advice on appeals and disability discrimination claims to the SEND Tribunal and is also the gateway to the Tribunal Support Service where a referral can be made for more extensive casework support from a volunteer, including representation at the hearing.

IPSEA provides legal training for parents, school staff, parent carer forums, support groups and other organisations to increase their knowledge and understanding of the SEN legal framework. IPSEA also challenges unlawful SEND policy and influences policy development at both a local and national level. Their policy work is informed by information and evidence captured through our training and advice services. It has been instrumental in shaping law and policy in the field of special educational needs and disability.

To find out more about IPSEA, to download their legal guides and resources, or to see how they may be able to help you, please visit their website: [www.ipsea.org.uk/](http://www.ipsea.org.uk/)

You can also book a telephone consultation for advice at: [www.ipsea.org.uk/advice-line](http://www.ipsea.org.uk/advice-line)

## THE LAW SOCIETY

### Find a Solicitor

Find a Solicitor is a free service for anyone looking for information about organisations or people providing legal services in England and Wales that are regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA).

<https://solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk/>

# SENDIASS

*The below is taken directly from their parent leaflet*

SENDIASS provides impartial information, advice and support to parents and carers of children who have SEND. The service aims to encourage partnership between parents, educational settings, social care, the local authority, health and other agencies. The service is available for any parent or carer of a child up to the age of 25 who has special educational needs or disability. Parents, carers and young people can contact the service directly. The information, advice and support that SENDIASS offer is based on the law and the SEND Code of Practice.

This covers matters relating to:

- ▶ Education, health and social care
- ▶ National and local policy
- ▶ The Local Offer
- ▶ Your rights and choices
- ▶ Your opportunities to participate
- ▶ Where you can find help, advice and support.

SENDIASS provide information in many ways through their website, social media, training events and conferences. Sometimes information alone is not enough. You may want help to gather information, make sense of it and apply it to your own situation. SENDIASS calls this advice and offers this service by email, telephone, face-to-face, and through training events. When they cannot help, they will do their best to tell you about or put you in touch with other groups or organisations that could help. This is called signposting.

SENDIASS provides unbiased information and advice about the Local Authority's policies and procedures and policy and practice in local schools and other settings. They aim to empower you to feel confident to say what you want to say and feel listened to. They are not an advocacy service and therefore do not speak on your behalf. As an impartial service, they do not favour either side or have influence over the outcome of any meetings. SENDIASS does not prioritise any particular impairment, disability, or special educational need, nor do they campaign for any particular approach to education.

To find out more,  
visit their website;  
[www.  
sendiasssouthend.  
co.uk/](http://www.sendiasssouthend.co.uk/)