

What is the SAT (Statutory Assessment Team)?



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The local authority has responsibility for your child's education. They have extra responsibilities for children who have special educational needs and disabilities. This responsibility sits mostly with the Statutory Assessment Team. As the name suggests, they oversee the assessment of children who may or do have special educational needs that will need to be assessed. They handle the requests for assessments and keep parent carers informed about that process.

They also have responsibility to oversee that children who have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) have the correct paperwork in place. They will coordinate the drafting of Plans and the updating of Plans, working with parent carers, schools and professionals to do this.

They will work with other Local Authority staff to ensure that children with Education Health and Care Plans have a school place.

They will be involved in any disputes that arise for children where there is a disagreement about whether to assess a child or where there is a disagreement about a Plan or a school place.

They are also there to help parent carers whose child has a Plan when they need more information.

How can they help?

You would usually only have contact with this team if there is an assessment request or if your child has an EHCP. You will usually have a named contact to speak with if you have questions or need help (on the letters you are sent). They can answer your questions and explain what happens and when. They are also helpful to talk with if your child has an EHCP and you and the school disagree.

Who do I talk to if I disagree with the Statutory Assessment Team?

Sometimes parent carers do not agree with the Statutory Assessment Team's decisions and want independent advice or legal advice. SENDIASS is Cambridgeshire's free independent advice service, which is provided under law by the local authority and is not influenced by the local authority. Email - sendiass@cambridgeshire.gov.uk. Confidential helpline open during term times: 01223 699 214

There is a Parents' School Preference Advisor who can help you make choices about schools: Email: choosingaschool@cambridgeshire.gov.uk 01223 699 194