



## The Proposed Statement

After the statutory assessment, if the LEA decides to issue a Statement of Special Educational Needs they will send you a proposed statement. You will also be sent the reports from professionals which made up the assessment. The reports will state clearly what your child's difficulties are, how severe they are and what the impact of those difficulties will be for your child in the context of their education. You will need to go through the reports carefully to be clear about the nature and degree of your child's difficulties and their educational implications.

You will need to be sure that the proposed statement covers all your child's needs and offers appropriate provision for those needs. You will have 15 days to contact the LEA to arrange a meeting if you are concerned about any aspects of the statement. Some of the things you may be concerned about may include:

- Unexplained professional jargon
- Any of your child's needs or difficulties not covered
- Any unexplained test results

### Looking at the Statement:

**Part One:** - Check all the details in this section are correct, e.g. Name, address, etc.

**Part Two:** This is the section that should describe in detail your child's difficulties. It should provide a summary of the descriptions contained in the assessment reports attached and describe your child's difficulties clearly and thoroughly. It is important that the statement is clear to anyone who might read it, as many people dealing with your child will not always have time to read all the reports attached to the statement.

**Part Three:** This section specifies **the provision**, which should be made by the LEA to meet your child's special educational needs. Part three is divided into three sections:

#### Objectives:

These identify the long term objectives of the provision to be achieved through the statement. They should relate to the summary in Part Two.

#### Provision:

How the provision is written is very important. Think about how the provision will be implemented. Is it clear what help your child will be receiving and how this help will be delivered and by whom?

#### Monitoring

The Headteacher will normally take responsibility for monitoring.

There will be reference to an Individual Education Plan (IEP). This is a plan of support that identifies your child's immediate learning needs and how they are going to be implemented within the school. The school's special needs co-ordinator may draw up and be responsible for the IEP, this should be done in consultation with the parents as well as relevant professionals.

The monitoring section of the statement should also refer to the Annual Review. A review must be held within a year of the issue of the Statement to take into account your child's changing needs.

**Part Four:** The name of the school should be left blank in the proposed statement so parents can express a preference. The LEA will send you a list of all primary, middle, high and special schools on the Island as well as a list of approved independent special schools. In most cases, the school your child already attends would be your preferred choice.

**Part Five:** - Non-educational needs. This should specify any non-educational needs, which will be met by Health, Social Services, or any other agency.

**Part Six:** - Non-educational provision.

This should specify the non-educational provision to meet the needs in Part 5.

### **If you agree with the Proposed Statement**

If you agree with the statement you can tell the LEA so and inform them of your preferred school.

### **If you disagree with the Proposed Statement**

Highlight any points you do not agree with or needs clarification. Note anything that you feel has been overlooked e.g. a recommendation in one of the reports that has not been included within the statement.

Ask either in writing or by telephoning the Named Officer for a meeting. You should do this within 15 days of receiving the proposed statement.

Once you have made your views known to the LEA you can ask them to send you a Revised Proposed Statement. If you are still unhappy, continue to negotiate with the LEA until you are happy for the final statement to be issued.

When the final statement is issued the LEA will also send you a letter informing you of your right of appeal to the SEN Tribunal if you are not happy with the Statement and the name of an officer to contact for more information and advice.

You can also contact the Parent Partnership Service who may also be able to help.