



## Note in Lieu of a statement—a guide for parents and carers

### What is a Note in Lieu of a statement?

A note in lieu of a statement is issued if, after a statutory assessment the Local Authority believes that your child's school can meet his/her needs without a statement.

### What is included in the Note in Lieu?

The Note in Lieu includes:

- Copies of the reports which were collected for your child's assessment
- A description of your child's special educational needs
- The reasons why a statement was not issued.
- Guidance about the support which could be helpful to your child at school
- A description of any non-educational needs your child has and the support which might be useful.

### Why is a Note in Lieu helpful?

During the statutory assessment we learn a great deal about your child's needs from you and a range of professionals. The information and advice gathered will be extremely useful to your child's school and other professionals involved with your child.

**If you do not want the Note in Lieu to be shared with your child's school and those connected with him or her then please tell the SEN Assessment and Review Service within one week from the date on the Note in Lieu of a statement.**

### How can my child's special educational needs be met without a statement?

The budget which the school receives from the Local Authority will cover most children's needs. Schools are given additional money to enhance the support for all children with different levels of special educational needs. You can discuss the particular arrangements and support that your child will receive with your child's school.

### Does the school have to do what the Note in Lieu says?

The Note in Lieu will be used by the school to help them provide the most appropriate support for your child. The note contains advice which has been based on the assessment reports, but it is not a legally binding document. Teachers will discuss your child's needs with you and use the information provided in the Note in Lieu to help prepare and review your child's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

