



INFORMATION FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS TRIBUNAL PARTIES

INCLUDING THE VIEWS OF A CHILD IN A TRIBUNAL

Why it is important and how we do it

The Children's Views service

Provided by Children in Scotland

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Under the UNCRC, we, as adults, are duty-bound to identify safe and supportive ways to allow children we work with the opportunity to share their views. All children have a right to be involved in decisions about their education - it is our role to make sure that happens.



WHO WE ARE

- The Children's Views Service support children with additional support needs to share their views in formal processes such as tribunal, disputes and education planning.
- We support children aged 12-15 through the My Rights, My Say project.
- We have a special agreement in place with the tribunal that allows us to work with all children outwith the My Rights, My Say age bracket.

WHAT WE DO

- One of our Children's Views workers will meet with the child or young person and will support them to respond to questions set by the tribunal.
- Once a worker has gathered the child's views, we write a report which is submitted directly to the tribunal.
- We are entirely independent and do not take sides or give recommendations.



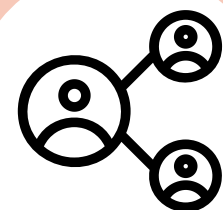
HOW WE DO IT



- We liaise with the child and their parent/carer to identify the best way to gather the child's views.
- We use young person-friendly approaches to support the child to share their views in a safe, friendly and meaningful way.
- We work one-to-one with the child; either in person or online.
- We will meet with the child as many times as needed or as the child wishes.

HOW WE SHARE THE CHILD'S VIEWS

- Once the report has been written, the child is given the opportunity to read it and make amendments.
- We send the report to the tribunal when the child tells us they are happy with it.
- We do not share the report with other parties prior to submission to the tribunal unless the child asks us to.



IF A CHILD FINDS COMMUNICATION DIFFICULT



- If a child finds communication difficult, we can gather their views in different ways - for example, through observations and play.
- With every child we work with, we ensure we get to know them and their communication preferences.
- In these cases, we work very closely with the people around the child to make sure we get it right.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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