

a Together Trust service

sen disagreement resolution service east midlands



Independent disagreement resolution for parents/carers of children with
Special Educational Needs (SEN), Local Authorities and schools.

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trust educational services

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a Together Trust service

The Together Trust provides Disagreement Resolution Services (DRS) to Local Authorities in the East Midlands. Disagreement resolution (or mediation) is voluntary, independent, confidential and a positive way of solving problems. It aims to improve communication and assist negotiation.

Disagreements involving special educational needs vary depending on each individual. Mediation can assist with disputes over whether or not an assessment should be carried out, what special needs the child or young person has, how best to meet these needs, and which school they should attend.

Mediation considers what is best for the child. It ensures that key people take part in the resolution process and gives everyone a chance to speak and listen. Mediators are neutral and don't take sides, enabling them to focus on protecting relationships.

Key facts

- Mediation is a positive way of resolving disagreements. Everyone is involved in making decisions
- Mediation is voluntary. Everyone agrees to mediation, and can stop taking part at any time
- Mediators are independent and neutral. They do not take sides
- It is confidential. The record of discussion is agreed at the meeting and everyone receives a copy.

Provision of SEN Disagreement Resolution Services

Referrals are made directly to the service by parents/carers, schools or by Local Authorities. The service is provided free of charge to parents/carers and does not affect the ability to take a case to the SEN Tribunal or interfere with other legal rights.

To make a referral or to enquire about our services please phone **0161 283 4836** or email **drs@togethertrust.org.uk**

For further information about our range of services including specialist education (pre and post 16), college, adult day services, residential, short breaks and domiciliary care please visit our website **www.togethertrust.org.uk** or contact **0161 283 4848**.

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