

What is the difference between disagreement resolution arrangements and mediation?

Disagreement Resolution can be used to resolve disagreements about any aspect of education, health and care provision in relation to a child or young person's special educational needs or disability whether or not an EHC assessment is underway, or an EHC Plan is in place. This service does not need to be accessed prior to an appeal to the Tribunal.

Mediation services are provided to assist, if parents or young people want it to, following decisions by a local authority not to carry out an EHC needs assessment, not to draw up an EHC plan, after they receive a final EHC plan or an amended plan, the refusal to amend a EHC plan following a annual review or the decision to cease a EHC plan.. Mediation services are specifically linked to decisions about EHC needs assessments and plans and should be considered prior to any appeal to the Tribunal (except if the appeal is about placement only).

In the East Riding of Yorkshire both of these services are provided by Barnardo's which is a free independent service to parent/carers and young people up to the age of 25.

Their contact details are:

Barnardo's DSI Service, Village Farm Business Centre, East Street, Holme-on-the-Wolds, HU17 7GA.

Tel: 01430 810139 email: dsi@barnardos.org.uk

Office times: Monday-Friday 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.