

SEND Legal Training



For Information, Advice and Support Services

The [Information, Advice and Support Services Network \(IASSN\)](#) is commissioned by the Department for Education to develop training on special educational needs and disability law (in line with the 2014 SEND reforms) for Information, Advice and Support Services (IASS) across England.

IPSEA Legal Training

The aim of the IPSEA legal training is to give participants an entry level understanding of all areas of SEND law, and to enable them to apply this knowledge when carrying out practical work advising and supporting children, young people and parent/carers.

If you are an IASS staff member this training is FREE as it is funded by the Department for Education.

There are 3 levels in the legal training, with each level consisting of both online modules **and** a one day face to face course. In order to fully complete each level of the legal training, participants must pass **both** the online module and attend the accompanying face to face training course.

The legal training covers the following topics:

Level 1

- Children and Young People with SEN and Disabilities – the Legal Framework
- The Duties on Local Authorities, Schools and FE Institutions
- EHC Needs Assessments
- EHC Plans, Personal Budgets and Direct Payments
- Naming a School or FE Institution
- Changing Plans
- Rights of Appeal to SEND and Mediation
- Disability Discrimination – Introduction to the Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 1996
- Exclusions

Level 2

- Transition
- Transport
- Annual Review
- Mental Capacity
- Health Care

- Inclusion
- Social Care
- Personal budgets/Direct Payments (Education, health and social care)
- Mediation
- The duty to specify

Level 3

- SEND Tribunal
- Refusal to carry out an EHC needs assessment
- Refusal to issue an EHC plan
- Contents Appeals for statements and EHC plans
- Tribunal Appeals: Decisions; ceasing to maintain an EHC plan/statement, and refusing to amend after Annual review
- Tribunal Appeals: Naming a school/FE College (including costs)
- Disability Discrimination
- Challenging Decisions - Judicial Review & legal aid
- The Early Years framework/Rights to information
- Elective Home Education and Education otherwise than in a school or FE college

Accreditation

This course is accredited by the Bar Standards Board for 30 hours of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) points.

Due to this accreditation, it is **not possible** to provide answers to those who have completed modules.

IPSEA - Online Modules

Once registered participants will have access to all the training from IPSEA.

Therefore, participants must ensure they complete Levels 1, 2 and 3 in succession to gain the most out of their learning.

Each online module contains a short multiple choice test. The pass mark for each level is 75%.

Following the completion of each level of the training:

- If you have failed you will be able to retake all the modules
- If you have passed, you have one opportunity to retake the training to improve your score.

Once a level is completed participants can move directly onto the next level of training even if they haven't completed the accompanying face to face training course.

IPSEA - Face to Face Courses

Participants must have passed the online modules in order to attend the accompanying face to face course. Participants can only move onto the next level of face to face training once both parts of the previous level (modules and face to face) have been completed.

Places at this training are free. However - participants who **do not turn up, OR cancel less than 2 working days before the course**, will incur a charge of £100, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Who can access this training?

All IASS Network training is **free** for paid staff working in IAS Services. IAS Service volunteers can undertake the online modules for free, but will only be able to attend face to face courses if there are spaces available, and specific permission has been given by IASSN.

Any staff working in a local authority or voluntary/private sector organisation who would like to take these courses should contact [IPSEA](#) directly to discuss their needs.

Please note - any non-IAS Service personnel who register and undertake the online modules organised by IASSN without prior consent from IASSN will be charged.

How do I access the training?

You can access the **online modules** course via the [members' area of the IASS Network website](#)

IASSN does not need to 'register' anyone onto these modules; you will need to follow the links to register and then to log in.

The modules are accessed via an external website. To save time, we recommend you save this link as a bookmark, this way you will not need to go through the IASSN members' area every time you want to log in.

Dates, registration details and further information for all the **face to face training** events are sent out via the IASS Network e-forum and are also available on the [members' area](#) of the IASS Network website.

Why is it important to complete this training?

The legal training was initially set up by the National Parent Partnership Network as a response to the Lamb Inquiry. This revised training has been developed to ensure IASS staff are confident and competent to provide effective and impartial support to children, young people and families in light of the 2014 SEND reforms.

- There is an expectation that all IASS will have at least one member of staff who has completed Levels 1-3 in their entirety, and the [IASS Standards](#)¹ reflect this.
- The IASS Network report back to the DfE regularly on the take up of training, including details of those services that haven't yet completed each level, and the reasons given for not doing so.

If you have any questions or queries regarding the IASS Network Legal Training please contact us on 020 7843 6024 or email iassn@ncb.org.uk

¹ Quality standards for services providing impartial information, advice and support