

FAQ'S: My child has been put on a part-time timetable; are school allowed to do this?

Sometimes if a child or young person is finding it difficult to manage a whole day at school, perhaps because they have behavioural difficulties, and there are concerns about this leading to an exclusion, or they are feeling anxious about school and are reluctant to attend, a school might suggest a part-time time-table.

Before any decision is made you should be able to **discuss** things with school and other professionals, if involved with your child. **A risk assessment** should be carried out. There may be better alternatives. The school must inform the Local Authority that your child is only attending part- time and the reduced time-table has to be reviewed regularly.

You don't have to agree to a reduced time-table and if your child has an Education Health and Care plan you should **contact your child's SEN Case Worker** at the LA before making a decision. In any case, a reduced timetable should only be a short-term measure intended to help your child successfully return to school full time as they are entitled to do.

Schools should try to avoid implementing a part-time timetable because if your child's timetable has been reduced this is denying him/her access to chunks of their education. This action is **unlawful in accordance with your child's right to a full-time education**. If the reasons for placing a child on a part-time timetable can be attributed to their disability this could be **discriminatory** within the meaning of section 15 of the Equality Act 2010, as he/she is being denied education due to something arising in consequence of his/her disability.



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