

Appealing **EHCP content (Sections B & F) and placement (Section I)** is the most detailed type of SEND appeal. You're no longer arguing *whether* your child needs a plan — you're proving:

- ◆ The **description of needs is incomplete or inaccurate**
 - ◆ The **provision is not specific or sufficient**
 - ◆ The **named placement cannot meet those needs** (or a different one can)
-

What You Need to Prove (In Practice)

1. Section B (Needs)

- All your child's needs are **fully and accurately described**

2. Section F (Provision)

- Provision is:
 - **Specific**
 - **Quantified**
 - **Legally enforceable**

3. Section I (Placement)

- The school named:
 - **Can meet needs** (if you agree), or
 - **Cannot meet needs** and your preferred placement **can**
-

The Golden Thread (This Wins Cases)

Everything should link clearly:

Need (B) → Provision (F) → Placement (I)

If this chain is broken anywhere, that's your argument.

Evidence You Need (and How to Use It)


1. Professional Reports (Your Core Evidence)

Use:

- Educational Psychologist
- Speech & Language Therapy (SALT)
- Occupational Therapy
- Medical / paediatric reports

 What strengthens your case:

- Clear descriptions of **difficulties**
- **Detailed recommendations**
- Evidence of **severity and impact**

 Your job:

Pull out:

- Missing needs (for Section B)
 - Stronger or more detailed provision (for Section F)
-

2. Turning Reports into Strong Section F Wording

Tribunals don't like vague wording.

 Weak:

- "Access to support"
- "Opportunities for intervention"

✓ Strong:

- “Daily 1:1 support for 3 hours”
- “Direct SALT therapy 2x weekly for 30 minutes delivered by a qualified therapist”

💡 Evidence should justify:

- **Frequency**
 - **Duration**
 - **Who delivers it**
-

3. 🏫 School Evidence (Reality Check)

Include:

- Current support levels
- Timetables showing interventions
- Behaviour logs
- Evidence of struggles in class

👉 Key arguments:

- Even with support, needs are **not fully met**
 - Or: school is **already exceeding typical resources**
-

4. 🚫 Evidence of Impact

This is what makes tribunals act.

Show:

- Lack of progress
- Emotional distress or anxiety
- Exclusions or part-time timetables
- Fatigue, masking, or shutdowns

👉 Link impact directly to **missing or inadequate provision**

5. 🧑🧑 Parent Evidence (Often Decisive)

Your statement should:

- Describe your child's **daily experience**
- Explain what happens:
 - Before school
 - During school
 - After school

💡 Especially powerful:

- Hidden struggles (masking at school, meltdown at home)
 - The level of support you provide
-

6. 🧩 Evidence for Placement (Section I)

If you want a different school:

You must show:

1. Your preferred school **can meet needs**
 2. The current/named school **cannot**
-

Useful placement evidence:

- Reports linking needs to specific environments
 - School responses (whether they can meet needs)
 - Evidence of:
 - Class size needs
 - Staff expertise
 - Sensory environment
 - Peer group suitability
-

7. 🏠 Comparing Schools (Very Effective)

Create a simple comparison:

Need	Required Provision	Current School	and then Preferred School
------	--------------------	----------------	---------------------------

👉 This makes your argument **very clear to the tribunal**

8. 🔍 Independent Reports (Highly Influential)

If possible, independent experts can:

- Identify missing needs
- Specify stronger provision
- Support placement arguments

They often carry significant weight.

9. 📄 Evidence of What's Missing

Don't just include what exists — show what's absent:

- Needs not recorded in Section B
- Provision not included in Section F
- Lack of specificity

💡 Phrase it like:

“There is no provision specified for X need”

⚖️ Structuring Your Case

Section 1: Overview

- Summary of your child

Section 2: Section B – Needs

- What's missing / inaccurate

Section 3: Section F – Provision

- What should be included (with detail)

Section 4: Section I – Placement

- Why current school is unsuitable
- Why preferred school is suitable

Section 5: Conclusion

- Clear statement of what you want changed
-



Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Accepting vague wording in Section F
 - Not linking provision directly to needs
 - Focusing too much on diagnosis instead of impact
 - Arguing preference for a school without evidence
 - Not showing why the current placement fails
-



Final Strategy Tip

Think like this:

- ◆ Section B: “This is everything my child struggles with”
- ◆ Section F: “This is exactly what must happen to support them”
- ◆ Section I: “This is the only type of setting that can deliver it