

## Children

Kid's claims must be made in the name of an adult and settlements approved by the courts. Parents and guardians will be reassured to know we will keep the child's interests uppermost at all times but will make sure the claim proceeds in a sympathetic and non-intrusive way.

Children can make claims in the same way as adults but there are some differences in how the case is dealt with.

- A child has until the day before their 21st birthday to bring a claim.
- A child will need someone help them deal with the claim. This person is called a litigation friend and is usually the parent or guardian of the child. They would deal with letters, go with the child to medical examinations and court, and sign documents on their behalf
- A child can not agree a figure for their compensation award. A Judge will need to approve the settlement.
- The child's compensation money will be paid into a special bank account run by the Court where, it will receive interest until being paid out when the child reaches 18.
- If the child needs some of money before they are 18 the Court can be asked to release the money early. The Court will usually only give the money out for good reason for example so that the child can pay for hospital treatment or to help them with their education
- In low value claims there is a procedure to avoid the expense of getting Court approval.

If you want to help your child make a claim we would be happy to help guide you through the process.