

22 March 2018

**Request for Information: Ref NCC-029842-17
Elective Home Education**

- A) Can you please categorise how those known to the team dealing with elective home education became known? E.g. School, Doctor, self-referral, concerns about the educational provision reported etc.**

Referrals to the EHE team originate from: parents/carers (self-referral) , schools (letter of withdrawal), medical professionals, family members, neighbours, community members, NCC admissions team, Family Service, Children's Social Care and other local authorities.

- i) Does the local authority seek to satisfy itself that the educational provision the parent(s) are providing is suitable to the child's age, aptitude, ability and any SEN as soon as they become aware that parents are electively home educating, regardless of how they become known to the local authority?**

No, it does not. If parents/carers agree to communicate with the LA, then parental provision will normally be considered at the EHE Adviser's initial and second visits. If there is a parental decision not to receive Adviser visits, then parents will be asked to submit written reports annually. The only exceptions to this are: (i) if significant safeguarding concerns have been raised when withdrawal from school takes place or (ii) if the LA has evidence that home education is undeliverable, in which cases a more immediate assessment will be made.

- ii) How many instances have there been in the years (from January 1st to December 31st) 2015, 2016, 2017 and to the date of this FOI where the person dealing with elective home education has or has had concerns that a 'suitable' education is not being provided?**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

B) I would also appreciate it if this information could be broken down into categories:

- 1) Whether they feel that no education is taking place?**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

- 2) Whether they feel that the philosophy of education is inadequate - for example in the case of autonomous or child led learning that the particular child is not appearing to be learning 'enough'?**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

- 3) Whether there are concerns because the family have not implemented a structured approach?**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

- 4) Or whether the fact that the national Curriculum is not being followed is causing concern?**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

- 5) A qualified third party is not involved in the child's education?**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

- 6) An educational report has not been provided by a third party such as; a teacher etc.**

We cannot provide this information from available data.

- B) I would like to know of these children, how many of these concerns were proven?**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

- i) Of the children in the above 4 categories, please indicate if further steps have or are being taken - for example, referred to CME or issued with a School Attendance Order. Please break it down into each year asked for.**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

- ii) Please indicate how many of these went to court in 2015, 2016 and 2017.**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

- iii) Please also indicate if any Education Supervision Orders are currently in court for this population?**

It is not possible to provide this information from available data.

Finally, please provide all recorded documentation relating to elective home education including policies, procedures (2013 - present) and recorded communications relating to elective home education (2016 - present), including any e-mail attachments. This does not include communications between the Elective Home Education team and electively home educating parents.

Attached are (i) Elective Home Education in Nottinghamshire: Guidance notes for Parents/Carers (ii) NCC Policy for Elective Home Education (iii) Elective Home Education (EHE) Procedure. You have also asked us to supply all recorded communications relating to elective home education (2016 - present), including any e-mail attachments. This question is deemed to be too broad or vague. So that I can consider this part of your request further please could you be more specific and clarify as to what information it is you require.

We hope this now satisfies your request, and should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me directly using the contact details below. In addition and for future reference Nottinghamshire County Council regularly publish previous Freedom of Information Requests and answers on our website, under Disclosure logs, available at the following link:

<http://site.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/>

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information Team, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or email complaints@nottscc.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

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