

Elective Home Education (EHE) - Fact Sheet

All children have a right to receive a suitable education, parents have a right to choose to educate their children at home

I am considering EHE what do I need to do?

The first step is to contact the school to discuss the reasons for your decision to home educate, this should be followed up by a dated intention in writing to the Headteacher.

EHE should not be viewed as a temporary measure, it is a long-term commitment and thought must be given to how the education provided by parents/carers supports children and young people in their preparation for adulthood. Parents/carers are asked to think carefully about how a broad curriculum will be planned and delivered as the child matures, ensuring they are able to be entered for nationally accredited examinations if appropriate and offered the best possible preparation for adult life. A decision to EHE will not prevent an exclusion from appearing on your child's record and it may not halt any legal attendance process already established.

My child is due to start in reception or I do not want my child to transition to secondary school, what do I need to do?

When you receive a notification from the Local Authority regarding a school place offered and if this is not required, please respond as directed in the correspondence from the admissions team and contact the EHE Team at Nottinghamshire County Council to update us that you wish to Electively Home Educate.

Where parents disagree on education arrangements for their child

Parents should work together in the best interests of their child and seek legal advice if

they don't agree on education arrangements, however the parent who has day to day care, unless there is a legal document to the contrary, usually makes the education decisions for the child.

Will I get any tuition or equipment?

The local authority does **not** provide any equipment such as laptops, financial help for home educated families or tutors to support with Elective Home Education and are not able to facilitate any types of alternative provision for EHE families. In addition, Free School Meals are not available to a family who have opted to home educate.

The sole responsibility for providing a suitable education lies with the parent/carer when the decision is made to provide home education. This includes planning and delivering an adequate, enriched education and personally meeting any costs incurred for exams, resources, travelling expenses and any extra tuition necessary. In situations where a tutor or online education resource is employed this will need careful research, ensuring they are reputable and meet necessary standards in relation to safeguarding, content and health and safety compliance. The local authority does not advocate or make recommendations in relation to this. Nottinghamshire Local Offer is a directory of service providers that you may find useful [Nottshelpyourself | Nottinghamshire's SEND Local Offer](#)

What happens after I notify the school in writing?

Once you have informed school that you are taking responsibility for providing your child with a full-time, suitable education then you should begin implementing this immediately and be confident in demonstrating this. Schools are required to inform the local authority of any child removed from their roll and the reasons for this if they are known. If

this is because you have decided to home educate, the local authority will then contact you. This is so it can fulfil its duty to enquire what education is being provided, to determine whether or not this is suitable and to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children living in its area. Local Authorities have a legal duty under s.436A of the Education Act 1996 “to make arrangements to enable the authority to establish, as far as it is possible to do so, the identities of children in its area who are not receiving a suitable education”.

Nottinghamshire County Council cannot support home education in situations where there is a safeguarding risk to the child or where no education is being provided.

What Support is available from the local authority?

Our team will initially email you with the offer of an initial phone call from one of our Professional Practitioners to let you know what support we can offer. A minority of parents choose not to meet with one of our team and we will then request you demonstrate to us that your child(ren) is in receipt of suitable education.

What about health updates?

Home educators are asked to ensure their GP is aware that their child is Electively Home Educated in order that they can receive essential health updates. This is because updates from school health are normally received through a school.

What if my child still wants to sit exams?

The JCQ has a website that identifies exams centres willing to enter external candidates: <https://www.jcq.org.uk/private-candidates/> Parents/carers are currently responsible for researching exam bodies and meeting any associated costs for registering as an external candidate and exams.

What is the legal requirement linked to Elective Home Education?

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 says:

“It shall be the duty of the parent of every child of compulsory school age to cause him to receive efficient full-time education, suitable to his age, ability and aptitude and to any special educational needs he may have either by regular attendance at school or otherwise”.

What happens if I no longer want to EHE or the local authority cannot be satisfied that suitable Education is taking place?

Many schools across Nottinghamshire are oversubscribed, once a child is removed from school roll there will be no guarantee that they can return if a school place is required. If a return to school is needed, it is usual for a child to return to the last school attended, however, schools that are oversubscribed or have allocated places from their waiting list will not usually be in a position to readmit students who have left to be recorded as EHE. You can rescind EHE by writing to us and you are advised to apply to at least 4 schools and appeal any refusals; this also applies if EHE becomes unsuitable. Parents always retain the right to apply for their child to return to any mainstream school whilst they are of statutory school age.

Contact information

Elective Home Education Team

Email: ehe@nottsccl.gov.uk

Tel: 0300 500 80 80

For additional information please see our website [Elective home education | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

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