

# Elective Home Education (EHE) - Fact Sheet - Pre-16 College Courses

## I'm considering a pre-16 college course, what do I need to know?

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, any extra tuition necessary and regular attendance at a college if your child is on a pre-16 course. In situations where a tutor or online education resource is employed this will need careful research. The Local Authority does not advocate or make recommendations in relation to this.

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/children mature, ensuring that children are able to be entered for nationally accredited examinations and offered the best possible preparation for adult life.

## What are the legal requirements?

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".*

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 happens next?

The Education Act 1996 s436a places a duty on local authorities to make arrangements to identify children not receiving education. DFE Guidance for Local Authorities 2019 states:

*'5.1 The duty under s.436A dealt with above means that local authorities must make arrangements to find out so far as possible whether home educated children are receiving suitable full-time education.'*

In all cases where Nottinghamshire County Council is aware that a child is home educated, enquiries will be made to be satisfied that education being provided is suitable. If it is not, a referral will be made to other services to support a return to school. Half termly meetings are held between colleges and the Local Authority to discuss progress.

If your child becomes at risk of losing their college place, the Local Authority may intervene as appropriate.

## What do I need to do?

To participate in a pre-16 college course, it is a requirement that you are recorded with the Local Authority as Electively Home Educated.

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.

## How do I apply for a pre-16 college course?

Forms are available from the college provider and must be processed prior to starting at college. Please make sure that you have read the college entry requirements for the pre-16 EHE course. We also suggest that you arrange a visit to the setting prior to any application.

## What if my child needs additional support when at college?

Talk to the college/tutor to see what support is available.

Contact the EHE Team at Nottinghamshire County Council.

Contact your GP for support if appropriate.

## What are the expectations?

- Passing entry tests/assessments to access the course
- Regular attendance
- You are recorded as Electively Home Educated with the Local Authority, College will ask who your contact is and will check this
- Travel costs to and from college are met by the parents/carers
- Follow college behaviour policy
- Make progress
- Some courses offered can have a mixture of age groups and interaction with other adult students
- You provide a supplementary demonstration of learning, when requested, to satisfy that your child is in receipt of a full-time education as most college courses are part-time

## What if I decide to stop EHE, or the Local Authority cannot be satisfied of suitability, or the college course is withdrawn?

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.

Parents always retain the right to apply for their child to return to any mainstream school whilst they are of statutory school age.

If your child loses their college place, you may be informed that a return to school is required, and you may be referred to other agencies.

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

## Contact information

Elective Home Education Team

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