

Elective Home Education



Parents have the right to decide to teach their children at home at any stage up to the end of compulsory school age. This right applies equally for the parents of children with special educational needs (SEN). Home education may also be used to meet the requirement to participate in education or training up to the age of 18.

Parents who choose to home-educate their children are responsible for ensuring that the education provided is:

- 1, efficient,
- 2, full-time and
- 3, suitable to the child's age, ability, aptitude and any SEN they may have.

They are not required to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and do not have to follow the National Curriculum. The parents of home educated children must be prepared to assume full financial responsibility, including bearing the cost of any public examinations.

Local authorities have no statutory duties in relation to monitoring the quality of home education on a routine basis. However, they do have duties to make arrangements to identify children not receiving a suitable education, and to intervene if it appears that they are not.

EHE for children with SEN without an EHCP

If an SEN child doesn't have an EHCP and a parent wishes to EHE they must ensure written notice is given to the Headteacher of the child's school to have their child's name removed from the school's admission register.

EHE for children with SEN with an EHCP

A parent can still remove the child's name from the admissions register by giving written notice that they wish to home educate their child.

If a child is attending a special school the LA must give permission for the child's name to be removed from the admissions register so they can be home educated.

Where parents and the local authority agree that home education is the right provision for a child with an EHC plan, the plan should make clear that the child will be educated at home. If it does, then the local authority must arrange the special educational provision set out in the plan.

It is important to note that it must be agreed by the LA and written in the EHCP that the child will be educated at home

Where a child's EHC plan names a school and the parents decide to educate them at home, the local authority does not have to make the special educational needs provision (SEP) set out in the plan provided that it is satisfied that the arrangements made by the parents are suitable. The parent will be deemed to be making their own arrangements and the LA will be relieved of its duty to secure the special educational provision in the EHCP.

This is important to bear in mind if you are considering EHE if there are therapies or SEP which you would wish the LA to continue providing. The LA would only provide those if the EHCP specifically stated that the child or young person requires "Education otherwise than in a school or college".

Parents should seriously consider the implications of choosing to home educate and should only do so where you are prepared and able to deliver, without LA support, the special educational provision your child requires. This means you will be financially responsible for providing the SEP for your child.

If a parent chooses to EHE their child and suitable arrangements are being made the LA remains under a duty to review the EHCP on at least an annual basis.

Further information can be found at:

http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200295/schools_and_learning/333/home_education/1

<http://www.electivehomeeducationservice.co.uk/>

http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/download/322/elective_home_education_policy_-_april_2017



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