

Elective Home Education

The Education Welfare and Education Other Than at School (EOTAS) Service are responsible for Elective Home Education (EHE) at Nottingham City Council

WHAT IS ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

Elective Home Education refers to the right of parents to educate their children at home instead of registering them at a school. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their children of compulsory school age receive suitable education that is appropriate for their age, ability, and aptitude.

When parents choose to home educate, they take on the full responsibility for their child's education, including accessing GCSE exams, work experience, and post-16 college placements. It is important to note that there is no funding provided for families who home educate, for example children are not eligible for free school meals and would not be in receipt of the pupil premium.

If a local authority provides home tuition or alternative education placements organised by the school or local authority it does not fall under the category of Elective Home Education.

Parents should be aware that the decision to home educate is significant, and it should not be taken solely to avoid attendance processes or exclusion.

WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES DO PARENTS AND SCHOOLS HAVE?

If a child is currently attending a mainstream school and parents decide to home educate, they must inform the head teacher in writing. It is the responsibility of the school to inform the Local Authority that the parent has notified them that they have deregistered their child for the purpose of elective home education. The school is requested to complete a referral form to the Local Authority. At the discretion of the Head Teacher, the school may remove the child from the school roll. The Local Authority will add the name of the child to their EHE register. The Education Welfare & EOTAS Service will contact the family.

For children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) who attend a special school arranged by the local authority, they cannot be removed from that school without the local authority's consent. Parents need to present a plan that meets the needs outlined in the EHCP. If the local authority refuses to give consent, the family may need to seek direction from the Secretary of State. These children will continue to have their educational needs reviewed. For children with an EHCP attending a mainstream school, parents do not need the consent of the Local Authority.

WHAT IS THE LOCAL AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR?

When the Education Welfare & EOTAS Service receives a notification from the school or parents the team will contact the parents to support them as part of their educational journey

The local authority has the responsibility to ensure that school-aged children receive an appropriate education. Parents are not obligated to provide a specific type of education, but it must be suitable for their child's age, aptitude, and any special needs. Parents do not need to have a designated premises, specific qualifications, cover the same curriculum as schools, adhere to school hours, terms, or a fixed timetable.

The Education Welfare & EOTAS Service maintain a register of children under elective home education when informed by schools or parents. They request information about the child's education and review its suitability. There is a statutory duty to undertake an annual review of educational provision.

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF OTHER AGENCIES?

If a practitioner working in a partner agency becomes aware of or believes that a child is being home educated, they should promptly inform the local authority using the contact details below. If a child is not listed on a school roll or the elective home education list, they will be considered as a Child Missing Education.

KEY CONTACTS and MORE INFORMATION

For any further inquiries or questions regarding elective home education, you can contact ElectiveHomeEducation@nottinghamcity.gov.uk , and a member of the team will contact you.

The Education Welfare & EOTAS Service
Enquiries: 0115 8762965