

Elective Home Education and Keeping Children Safe in Education - Updated

The updated **Keeping Children Safe in Education** 2021 came into force on **1st September 2021** and has a specific section on Elective Home Education, which reads:

165. Many home educated children have an overwhelmingly positive learning experience. We would expect the parents' decision to home educate to be made with their child's best education at the heart of the decision. However, this is not the case for all, and home education can mean some children are less visible to the services that are there to keep them safe and supported in line with their needs.

166. From September 2016 the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 were amended so that schools must inform their LA of all deletions from their admission register when a child is taken off roll.

167. Where a parent/carer has expressed their intention to remove a child from school with a view to educating at home, we recommend that LAs, schools, and other key professionals work together to coordinate a meeting with parents/carers where possible. Ideally, this would be before a final decision has been made, to ensure the parents/carers have considered what is in the best interests of each child. This is particularly important where a child has SEND, is vulnerable, and/or has a social worker.

In response to these requirements, schools/academies should use the flow diagram on the following page:-



Procedures if a Parent expresses a preference to Electively Home Educate their child

Parent expresses their intention to school to Electively Home Educate their child, either verbally or in writing.

School keep the child/young person on roll and contact the Local Authority AccessandInclusion@telford.gov.uk

EHE Advisor Karen Towers (karen.towers@telford.gov.uk)

School arrange a multi-agency meeting with parents, other schools siblings attend, the LA and any other professionals currently supporting the child/young person to discuss the suitability of the education to be provided and identify potential safeguarding risks if a child becomes EHE.

If parents do not wish to attend this meeting, school should still arrange this with the LA, other professionals & schools.

School to complete Section 1 of the Multi–Agency meeting form and send a copy to the EHE Advisory Teacher Karen.towers@telford.gov.uk.

Multi-agency meeting is held to establish what is in the best interest of the child.

During the meeting the 'Multi Agency meeting pro-forma' is discussed and completed. The LA will discuss their role and the expectations of suitable EHE with the parents and school.

A course of action is decided:-

A. Pupil remains on roll and there are strategies put in place by school and parents to support this. A review date is scheduled. Timescale.

If parents decide that they wish to go back down the EHE route then return to step two. **B.** Parents decide to Electively Home Educate their child or young person.

If the decision to EHE poses a safeguarding concern the **school must** follow the local Safeguarding Partnership procedures to ensure an appropriate safeguarding response is provided.

School forward the written de-registration letter and complete **all sections** of the 'Pupil Passport' and send to the Access & Inclusion inbox. AccessandInclusion@telford.gov.uk

There are, unfortunately, some instances where the relationship with the school and family has broken down and the family are no longer willing to engage with the school. Where this is the case schools should notify the EHE Advisory Teacher who will make contact with the family.