

CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY BOARD

20 July 2017

Elective Home Education



What is Elective Home Education (EHE) ?

- Definition : Those children who are not on a school roll and whose parents are home "educating otherwise than at school" as described in the 1996 Education Act.
- Parents/carers can choose how to provide education, by doing it themselves, hiring a private tutor or joining a parental support group. A duty on local authorities to maintain a register of children not registered at specified types of school
- Department for Education guidance published in 2019 places a duty on
 - local authorities to maintain a register of children not registered at specified types of school
 - parents to register their child with local authority if not registered at specified types of school
 - proprietors of certain education settings to respond to enquiries from local authorities
 - local authorities to provide support to parents who educate children at home.



What the data tells us

- Currently there are 408 children who are electively home educated, of which 25 have a Education Health Care Plan
- The number of active EHE cases has more than doubled since the end of the 2014/15 academic year, reflects national trend
- 0.73% of the total school population
- Dissatisfaction with the school and lifestyle or cultural beliefs account for 55% of EHE children
- Other reasons include emotional behaviour difficulties, not getting a place at their preferred school, concerns around bullying, religious beliefs and medical needs



How do we support EHE children and their families ?

- Full time EHE Advisory Teacher has established and maintains good communication and engagement with all our EHE community
- Maintaining engagement is vital to the Council's success in supporting the needs of home educated children and their families.
- Frequency and method of contact varies to meet the needs of the family/child
- Multi agency working is key in safeguarding children



How do we support EHE children and their families ?

- Regular newsletter shared detailing good practice, links to online resources
- Regular half termly meetings with the EHE community are held in libraries across the six towns, during the last sessions there was a request for a focus on arts and craft and science activities
- Over the last 5 months additional resources have been shared with all families together with links to online learning. Resources packs have also been printed and delivered
- Numbers could increase again in September

