



MS C MURTON.

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Geoff Connell
Chief Information
Officer

Ian Gibbs
Head of Information
Governance

Ask for: Information
Governance

Your ref :

Our ref: FOI/E3797.

Date: 24/06/2009

Resources Directorate
Information Governance

Information Governance
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Dear Ms Murton

Freedom of Information Act 2000
Request for Information: Stage 1 Appeal
Please quote our reference: E3797
Subject: Home Educated.

Thank you for your message for an internal review of our initial response to your Freedom of Information request. On reviewing our response, I note that it was incomplete and we had not answered Part B. and apologise for this omission.

Part A Question

The number of persons in the local authority of compulsory school age who are, or claimed to be, electively home educated and who have been either suspected or found to be involved in child abuse, neglect, forced marriage, sexual exploitation or domestic servitude.

Our Response

The answer to Part A is that the Local Authority does not have a complete picture of the number of pupils who are home educated. Parents who have always home educated their children (ie whose children have never been to state school) are not required to inform the Local Authority. There are currently 59 children known to be home educated in Newham.

The Authority has a duty under Section 175(1) of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This section states:

“A local education authority shall make arrangements for ensuring that the functions conferred upon them in their capacity as a local education authority are exercised

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with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.”(Children Act 2004, Ch.31, Pt.2, Section 10)

Where a home educated pupil is on a Child Protection Register, it may well appear to the local authority that an adequate education is not taking place.

Part B Question

How many (if any) Serious Case Reviews or Joint Area Reviews have reported with respect to home educated children in the LA.?

Our Response

Our response to Part B question is none.

If you require any further information or are not happy with our response please do not hesitate to contact a member of our team on (020) 8430 3737 or email us at information.governance@newham.gov.uk.

If you are not satisfied with the decision, you may ask for an internal review via Newham Council Complaints Procedure. I enclose a copy of the procedure.

Yours Sincerely

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