

London Home Education Officers Forum (LHEO)

Monday 10th November 2014 from 10.45

Bedford Borough Council, Council Chamber, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP

See: travel directions attached

Room opens: 10.15 (refreshments available) Meeting end (approx): 13.15

Further details, please contact Lyndsay Maguire at Lyndsay.Maguire@bedford.gov.uk or
Kevin Grant at kevin.grant@bromley.gov.uk (0795 833 7620)

AGENDA

10.45 Welcome, housekeeping, signing in and introductions

Suggestions from members for discussion:

- Process for EHE students with a statement of SEN. *Mary Helmore (Barnet)*
- Collecting and distributing EHE summary information for comparison purposes. *General interest*
- Establishment of the Eastern Counties/Herts EHE support group. *Anna Shaw (Herts)*
- Report and summary of the AEHEP meeting in Staffordshire on 16th October 2014. *Kevin Grant (Bromley)*
- Concerns raised surrounding parents using EHE to 'school hop' and declaring EHE to avoid SAOs. *Elaine Grant (Croydon)*
- Revision of the 2007 EHE Guidance under consideration by DfE – update.

12.00 Break for tea and coffee

- Short presentation by **Steven Bishop** (ADCS and policy lead re EHE for DfE) relating to 2007 EHE Guidelines followed by Q and A
- Case study for discussion. EHE reviews and parental mental health concerns. *Elaine Grant (Croydon)*
- Proposed LHEO terms of reference, comments requested - See draft copy attached
- LA staff threatened with department closure or reduction of service. *Ellie Evans (West Sussex)*
- AOB

The next LHEO meeting will be kindly hosted by Kent Authority on Monday 2nd March 2015

K Grant. LB Bromley



Terms of reference for London Home Education Officers (LHEO) Forum

1. Mission statement

1.1 LHEO exists to ensure that children in elective home education (EHE) are receiving efficient full time education in a safe environment within the region represented by the professional members.

2. Membership

2.1 Membership of LHEO is open to any individual who is an LA employee or commissioned by the LA and has a remit to work directly with EHE families.

2.2 LHEO welcomes members from the south east of England.

2.3 Heads of service are welcome to accompany their representatives at LHEO meetings and others by invitation.

2.4 No membership subscription shall be payable

3. Objectives

3.1 To protect and promote the rights of children and young people to receive an efficient and suitable education.

3.2 Establish and develop strong working partnerships with home educating families.

3.3 Consult with and be consulted by national policy makers

3.4 Facilitate the exchange of experience, knowledge and good practice between LHEO members

3.5 Enable the identification and dissemination of shared issue, concerns and priorities for development.

3.6 Encourage good operational links across the region to support positive engagements of families with EHE professionals.

3.7 Identify and promote the professional needs of LHEO members

3.8 Establish and develop strong working partnerships with other groups interested in promoting EHE.

3.9 To disseminate information to the membership on developments in EHE and related areas.

3.10 To act as a channel of communication between LHEO members and the national body (AEHEP)

4. Governance

4.1 LHEO will be administered by four officers of the membership at any one time.

4.2 Two of those members will be nominated by the membership as the LHEO representatives to sit on the national association.

4.3 Notes or minutes of the meeting will be taken and when agreed by the members, will be distributed.

4.4 LHEO meets at least 3 times a year. All meetings will be chaired by the nominated chairperson.

4.5 Meeting venues will be shared by the local authorities in the group.

5. Duties of the administrator

5.1 Maintain the membership list

5.2 Prepare the agenda for meetings

5.3 To collect and circulate any relevant information to the LHEO members

5.6 Deal with correspondence

5.7 Co-ordinate information for LHEO member in terms of professional development and training.

6. Points of clarification

LHEO members understand that there is no one 'correct' educational system. All children learn in different ways and at varying rates. It is vital that parents and children choose a type of education that is right for them, and it is important that LHEO members understand and are supportive of many differing approaches or ways of educating which are all equally feasible and legally valid.

The role of LHEO is not to advise parents how to educate their children or to promote registration at school.

7. Review of Terms of Reference

7.1 Terms of reference will be reviewed annually or when legislation changes.

To be reviewed July 2015.



**Bedford Borough Council,
Borough Hall,
Cauldwell Street,
Bedford,
MK42 9AP**

By Train

- First Capital Connect operate frequent direct trains to Bedford from several London stations including St. Pancras International, London Blackfriars and London Bridge. Direct trains also run regularly from Brighton, Gatwick and Luton Airports, Croydon and St. Albans.
- East Midlands Trains operate fast services to Bedford from St. Pancras International

The train station is about 10 minutes walk from Borough Hall.

By Car

Arriving from the north or south there are excellent links to Bedford from the M1, A1 and the A6. Travelling from the east or west the A421 and A428 provide easy access to the town.

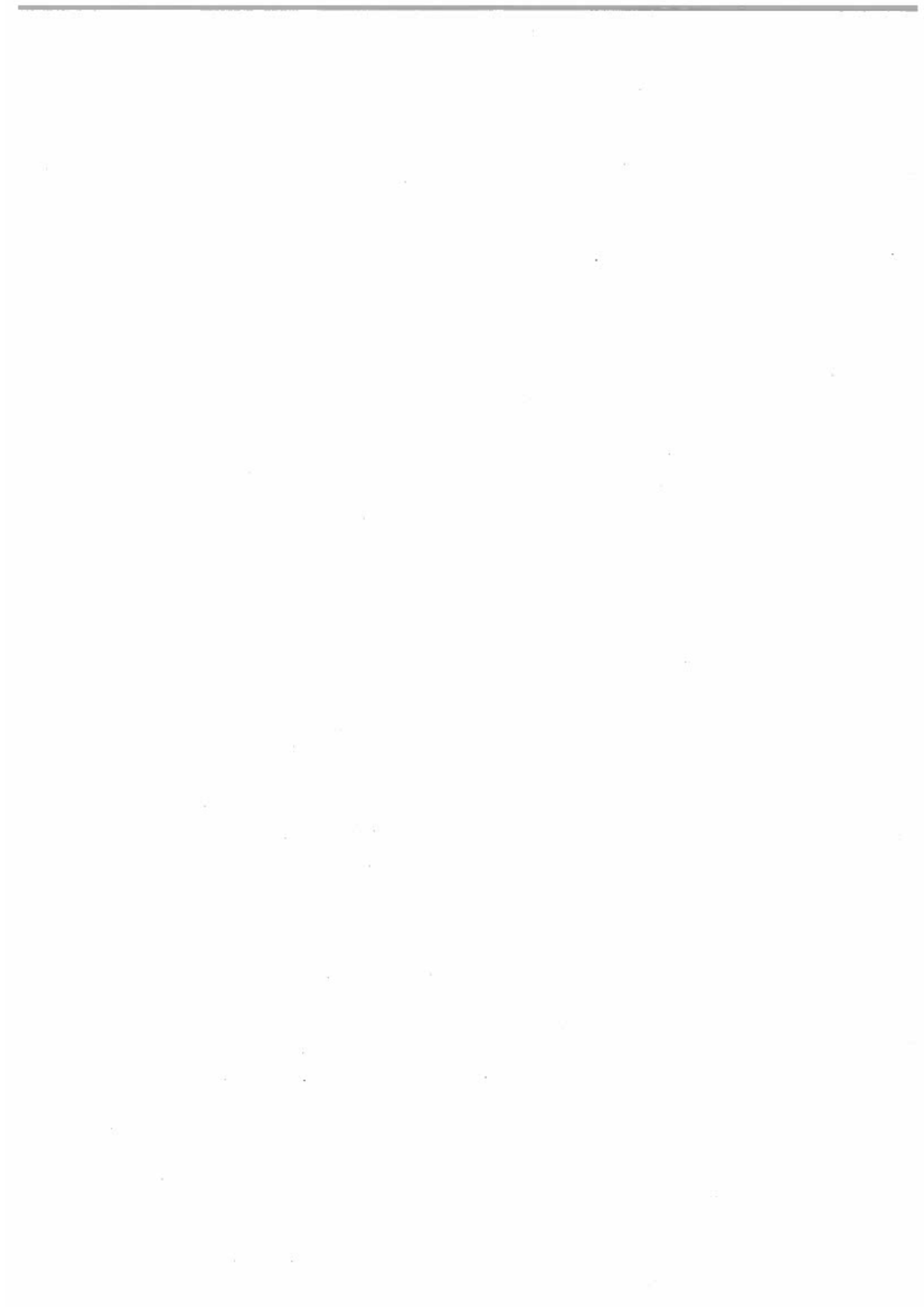
There is NO Parking for visitors at Borough Hall however, there are two large pay and display car parks in Prebend Street and Melbourne Street next to Borough Hall.

Bedford Borough Council – Borough Hall Staff Car Parking



Staff car parking permits must be displayed at all times when using the staff car parks.





From: Kevin Grant [<mailto:kevin.grant@grovelandscentre.org.uk>]
Sent: 22 October 2014 11:08
To: BISHOP, Stephen
Subject: FW: LHEO meeting 10.11.2014 AGENDA

(11)

Dear Stephen

Please find attached the agenda, directions, etc for the LHEO meeting. Can you let me know if you have any comments?

Attachments
Agenda } 11a
TDR } 11b
Map } 11c
R.S.T. } 11d



Thank you

Kevin Grant

Elective Home Education Advisor and Home Tutor

London Borough of Bromley

Tele: 020 8308 9620x203

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BISHOP, Stephen

From: Kevin Grant <kevin.grant@grovelandscentre.org.uk>
Sent: 11 September 2014 14:49
To: BISHOP, Stephen
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521
Categories: Orange Category

10

OK Stephen, thank you. I will post those out nearer the time. Apparently the offices are almost across the road from the train station in Bedford.

Kevin Grant

-----Original Message-----

From: Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk [mailto:Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 11 September 2014 12:45
To: Kevin Grant
Cc: Tracey.SHIELD@education.gsi.gov.uk; Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

9

Kevin

Thanks for the confirmation. In fact I cannot come on the 23rd October as that will be within a two week leave period for me, so I will simply come to Bedford on 10 November. It is not actually very difficult to get to - I can come into King's Cross and catch a train quite easily back up to Bedford from over the road at St Pancras without much trouble.

Yes, if you let me have venue details for Bedford in due course that will be fine.

Stephen

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Grant [mailto:kevin.grant@grovelandscentre.org.uk]
Sent: 11 September 2014 07:57
To: BISHOP, Stephen
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

8

Hello Mr Bishop

I now have the confirmed date for Daniel Monk's training ('EHE and the Law'), to be held at Islington Town Hall, which will be on Thursday 23rd October from 10.30. As you are aware, the next meeting of the LHEO (London Home Education Officers) group will be at the Bedford Council Offices on Monday 10th November from 11.00.

My preference would be for your attendance at the LHEO meeting in November, as the members would clearly like to meet you, but I quite understand that Islington is more convenient.

Hope to meet you at one (or both?) of the occasions above. I can forward details of the venue's once you let me know what is required. Thank you again.

Regards

Kevin Grant Bromley EHE Adviser and Tutor

-----Original Message-----

From: Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk [mailto:Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 05 August 2014 10:49
To: Kevin Grant
Cc: kevin.grant@grovelandcentre.org.uk; Debbie Partington; Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk;
Tracey.SHIELD@education.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

Thanks - can we say that we'll make a final decision when you can let me know the October meeting date? In the meantime I will note the 10 November in my calendar.

Stephen Bishop
Independent Education and Boarding Team
Department for Education
stephen.bishop@education.gsi.gov.uk
01325 735315 (Int x635315)

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Grant [mailto:kevin.grant@grovelandscentre.org.uk]
Sent: 04 August 2014 17:34
To: BISHOP, Stephen
Cc: kevin.grant@grovelandcentre.org.uk; Debbie Partington
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

Hello Mr Bishop

Thank you for your reply to my offer concerning the input by Daniel Monk concerning EHE, and also to hopefully attend the next LHEO (London Home Education Officers) regional meeting, which is to be hosted by Bedford LA on Monday 10th November at 11.00. I will not be able to confirm the date re Daniel Monk until a week or two into September as I am currently off during the school Summer break, returning 01.09.2014.

Daniel Monk (Birkbeck University, department of law) is perhaps the leading independent light regards EHE legislation, and has spoken previously to our group and others. We have asked him to provide some more in depth input regarding this topic from a legalistic point of view. As you are possibly aware, local authorities find this something of a grey area in terms of applying the law and guidance in practical terms. Daniel's expertise has helped clarified some issues for us.

LHEO has been the chief contact point for many local authorities for EHE since it's inception, currently 35 LAs in London and the SE are members, with 55 individuals on the mailing list. Bromley were the originating borough and I maintain that position as organizer. We meet termly, hosting is at various locations around the region, meetings generally last 2 and a half hours and we discuss all things EHE, concerns, developments, case studies, etc.

We would welcome wholeheartedly any contribution for the DfE at either/both of the occasions above, and it would perhaps give you the opportunity to meet a representative selection of the local authority staff responsible for applying the law 'on the ground' as it were.

Kind regards

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Grant [mailto:kevin.grant@grovelandscentre.org.uk]

Sent: 30 August 2014 17:10

To: BISHOP, Stephen

Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521



Hello Stephen

Certainly I can agenda you for early in the meeting, no problem at all. We will almost certainly start at 11.00 on the day, so hopefully 11.30 be OK. I will forward the full details of the venue as soon as I have them, but it most likely to be Bedford Council Offices/Town Hall.

Thank you, look forward to meeting you then.



Kind regards

Kevin Grant Home tutor and EHE Adviser
Grovelands Centre
Grovelands Road
Orpington. BR5 3EG
0208308 9620 x 203 / 07958337620

From: Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk [Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 29 August 2014 11:25
To: Kevin Grant
Cc: Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

①

Okay, I will await details re Daniel Monk.

Yes you can assume I will attend in Bedford on 10 November. It would be best if I could have a slot at the beginning, shall we say 5 minutes presentation plus 15 minutes questions/discussion?

Can you let me know actual venue for Bedford

Stephen Bishop
Independent Education and Boarding Team
Department for Education
stephen.bishop@education.gsi.gov.uk
01325 735315 (Int x635315)

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Grant [mailto:kevin.grant@grovelandscentre.org.uk]
Sent: 22 August 2014 18:22
To: BISHOP, Stephen
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

⑤

Hello Mr Bishop

Yes, that is fine. I will know the dates re Daniel Monk by mid September at the latest and will let you know as soon as I do.

A further consideration. Are you interested in making any representation in the form a short talk or Q/A session when we meet for the next LHEO (Bedford in 10th November)? I normally try to have a speaker or 'person of interest' regarding EHE and I know for sure that the members will be very interested in anything you have to say, even a 10 minute summary of something current in the world of EHE would be great. I understand that this may not be your normal responsibility, but feel I need to ask in case the opportunity passes me by!

Kind regards

Kevin Grant Home tutor and EHE Adviser
Grovelands Centre
Grovelands Road
Orpington. BR5 3EG
0208308 9620 x 203 / 07958337620



From: Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk [Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 05 August 2014 10:49
To: Kevin Grant
Cc: kevin.grant@grovelandcentre.org.uk; Debbie Partington; Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk;
Tracey.SHIELD@education.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

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Independent Education and Boarding Team
Department for Education
stephen.bishop@education.gsi.gov.uk
01325 735315 (Int x635315)

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Grant [mailto:kevin.grant@grovelandscentre.org.uk]
Sent: 04 August 2014 17:34
To: BISHOP, Stephen
Cc: kevin.grant@grovelandcentre.org.uk; Debbie Partington
Subject: RE: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

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Kind regards

Kevin Grant Home tutor and EHE Adviser
Grovelands Centre
Grovelands Road

Orpington. BR5 3EG
0208308 9620 x 203 / 07958337620

From: Unmonitored.ACCOUNT@education.gsi.gov.uk [Unmonitored.ACCOUNT@education.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 04 August 2014 08:07
To: Kevin Grant
Subject: Department for Education response: Case Reference 2014/0050521

2

Dear Mr Grant,

Thank you for your email dated 15 July about Elective Home Education.

We would like to be able to attend one of the two events you mention but need a little more information about them. For the one in October, this depends on the actual date, as I am on leave for the second half of that month. For 10 November, I expect to be in London but whether I could attend would depend on the location and time, so that I can work out whether I could still go to the meeting I already have at 1pm in Westminster.

Please reply to my personal work email below, not the general DfE email account.

Your correspondence has been allocated reference number 2014/0050521. If you need to respond to us, please visit: www.education.gov.uk/contactus<<http://www.education.gov.uk/contactus>>, and quote your reference number.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Bishop
Independent Education and School Governance Stephen.BISHOP@education.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dfe<<http://www.gov.uk/dfe>>

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/system/style/new/img/DfE_Small_Logo.GIF]

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From: no-reply@education.gov.uk [mailto:no-reply@education.gov.uk]
Sent: 15 July 2014 13:28
To: CORRESPONDENCE, PCU
Subject: DfE contact us form - Other: Kevin Grant



What is your query about: Other
Title: Mr
Other title:
Name: Kevin Grant
Email: kevin.grant@grovelandscentre.org.uk
Telephone: 02083089620x203/5
Role: Teacher
Other role: EHE Advisor
FOI query: No
Complaint about DfE staff/service: No

Subject: EHE

Enquiry: Hello. I am responsible for maintaining a forum of LA EHE staff titled the London Home Educator Officers group (LHEO), representing 35 authorities in London and the South East. We are in the process of arranging training with Mr Daniel Monk of Birkbeck University School of Law, expected to take place in October 2014 at Islington Town Hall and would like to invite a representative of the DfE to attend and contribute to the session, an invitation which is extended to our next LHEO meeting on 10th November. Could you indicate if there would be interest from the DfE to attend either such occasion? Thank you, Mr K Grant, London Borough of Bromley.

Technical guidance unclear:
Document to provide: No

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