



MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

J Carter

Children and Families

Information Governance Team

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4 April 2018

Dear J Carter

Reference: CHS/AWSBFR (elective home education)

Thank you for your request for information which was received by Manchester City Council on 12 March 2018 and has been considered under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In response to your request, please see below.

A) Can you please categorise how those known to the team dealing with elective home education became known? E.g. School, Doctor, self-referral, concerns about the educational provision reported etc.

The majority are referred by schools.

i) Does the local authority seek to satisfy itself that the educational provision the parent(s) are providing is suitable to the child's age, aptitude, ability and any SEN as soon as they become aware that parents are electively home educating, regardless of how they become known to the local authority?

Officers contact parents of all home educated children as soon as they become known to the LA. Please see the EHE policy which clearly shows the process to assess whether education provision is suitable.

http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/100005/schools_education_and_childcare/3575/educating_your_child_at_home

ii) How many instances have there been from June 2016, 2017 and to the date of this FOI where the person dealing with elective home education has or has had concerns that a 'suitable' education is not being provided?

From 1st September 2016 - August 2017 there were 113 cases where elective home education was deemed unsuitable.

From 1st September 2017 - March 2018, there were 84 cases where elective home education was deemed unsuitable.

B) I would also appreciate it if this information could be broken down into categories:

The majority of concerns are because there is no/insufficient education taking place.

1) whether they feel that no education is taking place?

- 2) whether they feel that the philosophy of education is inadequate - for example in the case of autonomous or child led learning, that the particular child is not appearing to be learning 'enough'?
- 3) whether there are concerns because the family have not implemented a structured approach?
- 4) or whether the fact that the national Curriculum is not being followed is causing concern?
- 5) a qualified third party is not involved in the child's education?
- 6) An educational report has not been provided by a third party such as; a teacher etc.

C) I would like to know of these children, how many of these concerns were proven?

All parents are given the opportunity to respond to any concerns raised.

i) Of the children in the above 6 categories, please indicate if further steps have or are being taken - for example, referred to CME or issued with a School Attendance Order. Please break it down into each year asked for.

All children where home education is deemed unsuitable are referred to the CME Team

ii) Please indicate how many of these went to court in 2016 and 2017.

0

iii) Please also indicate if any Education Supervision Orders are currently in court for this population?

0

Finally, please provide all recorded documentation relating to elective home education including policies, procedures (2015 - present) and recorded communications relating to elective home education (2017 - present), including any e-mail attachments. This does not include communications between the Elective Home Education team and electively home educating parents or information that falls under S40 (which I expect to be redacted).

Please follow the attached link

[http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/100005/schools_education_and_childcare/3575/educating_your_child_at_hom
e](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/100005/schools_education_and_childcare/3575/educating_your_child_at_home)

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Please note if you are not satisfied with this response you may ask for an internal review. If you wish to complain you should contact me in the first instance. If you require more information about the Council's access to information complaints procedure this can be downloaded from

[http://www.manchester.gov.uk/downloads/download/6095/access_to_information_complaints_and_appeal_proce
dure](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/downloads/download/6095/access_to_information_complaints_and_appeal_procedure)

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/email/>

Tel: 03031231113

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Corcoran
Director of Education
Children and Families Directorate