

Enquiry Number – FS Case 70188662

Request and Response:

- 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.

Response: **Self-referral (Parents)**
 Early Help / Universal Services: Schools, Health, Police etc
 Local Authority Services: Housing, Youth Service, Youth Offending etc.
 Other Local Authorities (where children previously registered as EHE)
 General Public / Anonymous

- 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?

Response: **Yes.**

- ii) How many instances have there been in the years (from January 1st to December 31st) 2015, 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?

Response: **See Table**

Jan 01 – Dec 31	Concerns / Unsatisfactory
2015	0
2016	4
2017	6
2018 to date	2

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

- 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.

Response: **We do not hold data in the categories specified.**

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

Response: We have not found it necessary to prove our findings via a Court: By working in partnership with families, we have supported the placement in school / alternative provision of all children detailed in tables above and below.

- 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.

Response: See Table

Jan 01 – Dec 31	CME	SAO
2015	0	0
2016	3	1
2017	4	2
2018 to date	Pending	Pending

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

Response: 2016 - Nil (see answer C above)
2017 - Nil (see answer C above)

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

Response: None (see answer C above)

3. Finally, please provide all recorded documentation relating to elective home education including policies, procedures (2015 - present).

Please provide copies of all 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)).

The Sandwell EHE policy can found at

[http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/download/322/elective_home_education_policy - april 2017](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/download/322/elective_home_education_policy_-_april_2017)

There are no recorded communications regarding Elective Home Education that do not fall into the categories outlined above.

All other information can be found via the web address below:

http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200295/schools_and_learning/333/home_education

http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200198/data_protection_and_freedom_of_information/2883/freedom_of_information_responses/1

If you wish to receive further information in regards to this request or wish to submit a Freedom of Information Request please forward your request to info_management@sandwell.gov.uk or Information Management Unit, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE.