

Elective Home Education

1	As at 1 st November 2020, what percentage of the LA school population is electively home educated?	As of 1/11/2020 we had 113 EHE children, this represents less than 1% of the school population.	
2	As at 1 st November 2019, what percentage of the LA school population was electively home educated?	On 3/10/2019 we had 92 EHE children, representing less than 1% of the school population. *This is the data we have nearest to the data requested.	
3	If there is a difference between November 2019 and November 2020, what are the reasons for the difference?	We believe the jump in numbers is related to concerns around Covid-19, as many parents have sighted this as their reason to EHE.	
4	How many formal requests for elective home education have been made between 1 September 2020 and 20 th November 2020?	52	
5	How many formal requests for elective home education were made between 23 March 2020 and 21 August 2020?	2	
6	Is there a pattern in the types of schools where the number of EHE referrals are high?	The number of referrals from each school type is as follows – Primary – 21 Middle – 4 Secondary – 26 Special schools – 3	
7	Of the requests for elective home education made, what percentage of pupils have returned to full-time education in a school or registered provision since making the request?	Year request for EHE made	% subsequently returned to full-time education in a school or registered provider.
		2017/18	
		2018/19	
		2019/20	
		2020/21	

8	<p>How many families did you have on 1st Nov 2020 where all the children were electively home educated?</p> <p>How does this compare to the number of families where all children were electively home educated at 1st Nov 2019?</p> <p>What is the reason for the difference?</p>	<p>97 families (16 with more than one child who is EHE)</p> <p>83 families (7 with more than one child who is EHE)</p> <p>Many siblings then became stat. school age which obviously increased our numbers as did the concerns from parents around COVID-19.</p>
9	<p>Do you find that some families make repeated requests for elective home education? If so, why?</p>	<p>We have not seen a pattern of this in North Tyneside, although there has been a small number of children/families who have done this over the timeframe.</p>
10	<p>Are there any geographical areas or particular postcodes in your authority where children in elective home education are high? Why might this be?</p>	<p>No, we have found the cases to be generally well spread across the borough.</p>
11	<p>Since 23 March 2020, what are the top three reasons given by parents/carers for choosing to electively home educate?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health/Emotional need • Health concerns relating to COVID-19 • No reason provided/awaiting further info from parents
12	<p>Prior to March 2020, what were the top three reasons given by parents/carers for choosing to electively home educate?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health/Emotional need • House move into the area (already EHE) • No reason provided/awaiting further info from parents

13	Please comment on the impact that the pandemic and resulting partial school closure has had on requests for families and/or carers to electively home educate.	<p>We feel the ongoing pandemic situation and the fact children were asked to return to school in September, resulted in many families deciding to EHE their children.</p> <p>Many families state they feel their children are unsafe in school due to COVID-19 and/or they are concerned about various health conditions and the impact this may have in relation to the virus.</p> <p>Some families have also reported that they enjoyed having their children at home during the lockdown period and were therefore happy to continue to educate their children themselves at home.</p>
14	Are there any common patterns in the types of schools that have seen a notable increase or reduction in the number of children becoming home educated?	<p>As shown above, we feel the numbers are fairly evenly spread amongst our primary and secondary schools.</p> <p>The number of referrals from each school type is as follows –</p> <p>Primary – 21</p> <p>Middle – 4</p> <p>Secondary – 26</p> <p>Special schools – 3</p>
15	Do you find that some families request for children to be electively home educated but then remain in school? What are the reasons for this?	No
16	Please outline your support offer for children who are electively home educated	<p>A face-to-face meeting is always offered upon receipt of a new EHE decision (these are now carried out via Teams due to the current restrictions) and then 6-12 months following this. During this meeting parents/carers are given a list of possible resources and information on our school library service which they can also join.</p> <p>A discussion is held regarding access to the school nursing and immunisation team as well as signposting for careers advice (through Connexions) and possible GCSE enrolment at a local test centre.</p>

17	What was the LA budget/actual spend on co-ordinating and/or supporting home educating families/careers?	We have a combined budget with the Attendance Team, however we employ one member of staff specifically for EHE. That post is a 30-hour term-time only post. The budget for this post is £23,300.
18	How many FTE staff work in this area? Co-ordinating and/or supporting home educating families?	.66 FTE
19	How has your support offer changed because of the pandemic?	What we offer has not changed; we still offer a meeting and provide resources etc, although this now happens via Teams meetings and through email/the post as opposed to face-to-face.
20	What actions did the LA take to support pupils who were sitting exams or undertaking vocational, GCSE or A-level assessments in the summer term 2020?	We contacted the parents/carers who we knew had enrolled their children in GCSE exams and offered additional careers advice/signposting, whilst encouraging them to speak with the exam centre directly.
21	How many electively home educated children are known to have had difficulties in receiving qualifications following the cancellation of exams in 2020 due to being unable to receive an assessment?	Two, that we were aware of.
22	Do you routinely record children who are electively home educated and move elsewhere with their families as missing in education?	If we have a forwarding address etc., we would refer the case to the EHE department of the new LA, otherwise yes, the children would be recorded as CME until their whereabouts could be established.
23	How many electively home educated pupils have you reported as missing in education between 1 November 2019 and 1 November 2020?	One – further investigations were carried out and the child was located and remained as EHE.

24	<p>Are you aware of children who are electively home educated in your area attending unregistered schools?</p> <p>How many children attend these sorts of settings?</p>	No.
25	Do you have any concerns over individuals or companies offering private tutoring to children in your local area, in light of the partial closure of schools?	No
26	Please use this space to leave any additional comments you have on the national policy context or specific issues and trends in your locality. Please also use this space to share details of local policies or practices you think might be of interest to others.	<p>Safeguarding we would welcome some requirement for regular contact with the child and their parents/carers.</p> <p>It can often be difficult to establish if an education is suitable, due to the various approaches parents/carers take to EHE and the lack of clear, specific requirements placed upon parents.</p> <p>We would also welcome a compulsory register for EHE children and supportive legislation.</p> <p>We feel that there should be a clear definition of "suitable" in relation to what a child should be able to achieve, for example, with regard to reading, writing and maths at key stages in their education.</p>