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Call Centre 0161-342-8355

www.tameside.gov.uk

Email:

julie.waterhouse@tameside.gov.uk

Doc Ref	FOI 7266
Ask for	Julie Waterhouse
Direct Line	0161 342 2290
Date	15 March 2018

Ms K Norman

By email:

request-466171-22e70caf@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Ms Norman,

Freedom of Information – Request for Information
Unique Reference: FOI 7266

Thank you for your request for information dated 21 February 2018, which the Council received by email. You have requested the following information:

I am submitting this freedom of information request to find out the following information regarding elective home education. When I refer to 'children', I mean they are either de-registered from a school or have never been registered with a school. Please provide copies of all available documents, research and paperwork.

A) I would like to know which department within the local authority deals with elective home education?

- 1) I would like to know who is currently employed in this team, and who the team leader is.*
- 2) I would like to know who they report to.*
- 3) What form of contact they use with families the first time they contact them.*
- i) Please supply copies of policies and procedures used for elective home education, for staff use or supplied to Home educators.*

B) Has the LA made the team dealing with elective home education aware that there is no requirement to investigate a case or for the LA to seek to satisfy itself that a suitable education is being provided when they know the reason why a child has ceased to attend school? The specified reason being, parents have given legal notification to a school that they are educating otherwise than at school.

C) I would like to know how many children are currently known as being electively home educated in the local authority.

- D) How many pupils have been de-registered from school to be electively home educated? Please provide numbers for: July 2015, July 2016 and July 2017. Please categorise these into:*
- Children with no known SEN*
 - Children with SEN (with and without EHCPs).*
 - Children de-registered from special schools*
 - Children with care plans (break down into CIN, CPP and EHCP).*
 - Children under services such as; CAHMS*

I am pleased to advise that the Council can provide the information that you have requested. The information you requested is as follows:

A. Elective Home Education is delivered by two services, the Education Welfare Team and the Pupil Support Team.

1) There are 5 Education Welfare (EWO) Officers and 2 Senior EWOs there are 3 pupil Support Officers. All these positions have EHE as that part of their role but not full-time. The team leader with responsibility for elective home education is Michelle Jennings.

2) Michelle Jennings reports to the Access Manager, Julie Waterhouse.

3) Initial contact with families is usually in writing and occasionally by email.

i. Under section 21 of the Act, the Council is not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. You may access the information that you have requested from the Council's website at: <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/education/athome>

B. Yes, the service is fully aware of the legal rights around elective Home Education and work within them in supporting pupils and families appropriately.

C. As at 26 February 2018, we have 122 children who are electively home educated.

D.

	July 2015	July 2016	July 2017
Children with no known SEN	73	94	135
Children with SEN (with and without EHCPs).	3	5	10
Children de-registered from special schools	1	3	4
Children with care plans (break down into CIN, CPP and EHCP).	0	1 - CP	9 – CIN 2 - CP
Children under services such as; CAHMS	*Not held	*Not held	*Not held

*Please note the information is not collated or held by the Council.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint, or request a review of the Council's decision, please write to Sandra J Stewart, Borough Solicitor, at Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council, Dukinfield Town Hall, Dukinfield, Tameside SK16 4LA.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Commissioner cannot normally make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Council. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF and at www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Waterhouse, Head of Access