

Independent Review of Home Education

Rationale

Vulnerable children who are being home educated may pose an increased concern in terms of their safety, wellbeing and education. The independent review is seeking specific evidence on:

- i) the **prevalence** of 'vulnerable' children in your current EHE caseload;
- ii) the **type** of vulnerability you have encountered in the past and / or are experiencing currently.

Your **views** as to what measures could be taken to improve the safety, wellbeing and education of these children are also sought.

In relation to (i) above:

1. What proportion of your current EHE caseload is known to Social Care in the following capacities? Please include open and closed cases.

Please note increase in Children Educated at Home caseload based on May 2009 figures.

Type	Number	% of caseload
Section 47 enquiry ¹	78	10%
Section 37 (care orders)	9	1.1%
Children who are or have been subject to child protection plan (or previously on the child protection register)	7	0.9%
Other (please specify)		
Total number of children	94	12%

2. What proportion of your current caseload do you estimate have safeguarding implications?

	Number	% of caseload
Total number of children	781	
Parent with mental health issues	8	1%
Child with mental health issues	38 (known to CAMHS – based on parental disclosure)	5%
Parent with substance misuse issues	6	0.8%
Domestic violence	12	1.5%
Child abuse or neglect (current or previous)	8	1%
Other family circumstances		
Concerns but cannot determine due to inability to see the child	14	1.8%
Other (please describe)		
Concerns about parental ability / capacity to undertake home education (not covered above). Please specify reason:	Literacy levels are not always adequate to fulfil	

¹ **Do not** include cases that did not lead to further action.

	commitment to home education.	
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3. Request for case studies

In relation to (ii) above, please provide two or three anonymised case studies (more if you wish) describing cases where you have specific safeguarding concerns. Within your description please provide information detailing your specific concerns including any issues around obtaining relevant information about the child from the parent or child (including difficulties in gaining access to the child). Your **views** as to what measures could be taken to improve the safety, wellbeing and education of these children are also invited.

To follow if requested.

Additional information

4. In your estimation, what proportion of your current caseload is not receiving any education?

Estimate of 5 – 6%. Note: Where the Local Authority is not satisfied that a child is receiving a suitable education, appropriate action is always taken.

5. In your estimation, what proportion are home educating to avoid prosecution for attendance issues?

Estimate – 9% based on numbers of pupil experiencing significant attendance issues prior to decision to home educate and failure to engage with appropriate agencies to address these issues.

6. What proportion of EHE youngsters became NEET (please use the latest data you have available and note the timeframe in your response).

7% - Based on 2007/8 post 16 destinations.