

# Elective home education: call for evidence Government consultation

Launch date: 10 April 2018 Respond by: 2 July 2018

## Links to sources on gov.uk website:

Home Education - Call for Evidence and revised DfE guidance - Web page with link to on-line response portal.  
<https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-frameworks/home-education-call-for-evidence-and-revised-dfe-a>

3 documents at the bottom of the above page - these are needed in order to be able to answer the questions.

EHE Call for Evidence:

[https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-frameworks/home-education-call-for-evidence-and-revised-dfe-a/supporting\\_documents/Elective%20home%20educationcall%20for%20evidence%20%20consultation.pdf](https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-frameworks/home-education-call-for-evidence-and-revised-dfe-a/supporting_documents/Elective%20home%20educationcall%20for%20evidence%20%20consultation.pdf)

Draft EHE Guidance for Local Authorities:

[https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-frameworks/home-education-call-for-evidence-and-revised-dfe-a/supporting\\_documents/Elective%20home%20educationGuide%20for%20LAs.pdf](https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-frameworks/home-education-call-for-evidence-and-revised-dfe-a/supporting_documents/Elective%20home%20educationGuide%20for%20LAs.pdf)

Draft EHE Guidance for Parents:

[https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-frameworks/home-education-call-for-evidence-and-revised-dfe-a/supporting\\_documents/Elective%20home%20educationGuide%20for%20parents.pdf](https://consult.education.gov.uk/school-frameworks/home-education-call-for-evidence-and-revised-dfe-a/supporting_documents/Elective%20home%20educationGuide%20for%20parents.pdf)

The following tables match the question numbers in the Call for Evidence PDF document with the numbers in the on-line response portal. Page numbers shown are relevant to the source identified in column in which they are listed.

Q No. in Call for Evidence	Q No. in On-line Response	Text of question taken from on-line response form.
	<b>Page 1</b>	<b>Introduction</b> <b>This page seeks information about respondents and the capacity in which they are responding to the consultation</b>
	1	What is your name?
	2	What is your email address?
	3	Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation? Select: Individual/Organisation
	4	If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, what is your organisation? Organisation:
	5	Which of the following best describes the capacity in which you are responding to this consultation? Please select: Drop-down box options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children's social care – social worker</li> <li>• Children's social care – other</li> <li>• Adults' social care – social worker</li> <li>• Adults' social care – other</li> <li>• Local authority</li> <li>• Service user</li> <li>• Mental health services</li> <li>• Other health services</li> <li>• Higher Education Institution/Academia</li> <li>• Charity/non-governmental organisation</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Regulatory</li> <li>• Parent or carer</li> <li>• Prefer not to say</li> <li>• Other (please state)</li> <li>• If Other, please give details</li> </ul>

Q No. in Call for Evidence	Q No. in On-line Response	Text of question taken from on-line response form.
	6	Which local authority area are you based in? Please Select (Drop-down alphabetical list of local authorities)
	7	Would you like us to keep your responses confidential? Select: Yes/No Several paras small print, followed by box headed Reason for confidentiality
<b>Page 13</b>	<b>Page 2</b>	<b>Information about home educated children</b> <b>This section is about current and possible future arrangements for registration of children who are being educated at home</b>
1	8	How effective are the current voluntary registration schemes run by some local authorities? [What are the advantages and disadvantages associated with these local voluntary arrangements, and] What would be the advantages and disadvantages of mandatory registration of children educated at home, with duties on both local authorities and parents in this regard? <i>Additional text in [ ] is from pdf version of questions. It is missing from on line response form.</i>
2	9	What information is needed for registration purposes, and what information is actually gathered by local authorities? Would it help the efficacy of these schemes, and the sharing of information between authorities, if there were a nationally agreed dataset or if data could be shared by national agencies, such as DWP or the NHS?
3	10	Does experience of flexi-schooling and similar arrangements suggest that it would be better if the scope of registration schemes included any children who do not attend a state-funded or registered independent school full-time? If so, do you think that local authorities should be able to confirm with both state-funded and independent schools whether a named child is attending that school full-time?
4	11	Would the sanction of issuing a school attendance order for parental non-compliance with registration be effective, or is there another sanction which would be more useful?
5	12	What steps might help reduce the incidence of schools reportedly pressuring parents to remove children to educate them at home?
6	13	Is there an argument for some provision which allows a child to return to the same school within a specified interval if suitable home education does not prove possible?
<b>Page 15</b>	<b>Page 3</b>	<b>Monitoring educational provision made at home or for home-educated children</b> <b>The questions in this section are about ways in which oversight of children who are being home educated would be best arranged so that it helps to ensure the education provided is suitable, but also so that the oversight is proportionate to need.</b>
7	14	How effective is local authority monitoring of provision made for children educated at home? Which current approaches by local authorities represent best practice?
8	15	If monitoring of suitability is not always effective, what changes should be made in the powers and duties of local authorities in this regard, and how could they best ensure that monitoring of suitability is proportionate?
9	16	Should there be specific duties on parents to comply with local authorities carrying out monitoring if such LA powers and duties were created, and what sanctions should attach to non-compliance?

Q No. in Call for Evidence	Q No. in On-line Response	Text of question taken from on-line response form.
10	17	Is it necessary to see the child and/or the education setting (whether that is the home or some other place), in order to assess fully the suitability of education, and if so, what level of interaction or observation is required to make this useful in assessing suitability?
11	18	What can be done to better ensure that the child's own views on being educated at home, and on the suitability of the education provided, are known to the local authority?
12	19	What are the advantages and disadvantages of using settings which are not registered independent or state schools, to supplement home education? How can authorities reliably obtain information on the education provided to individual children whose education 'otherwise than at school' includes attendance at such settings as well as, or instead of, education at home?
13	20	What are the advantages and disadvantages of using private tutors to supplement home education? How can authorities best obtain information on the education provided to individual children whose education at home includes private tuition, or whom attend tuition away from home?
14	21	Are there other matters which stakeholders would wish to see taken into account in this area? If so please insert comments below. Yes/No Response box
<b>Page 17</b>	<b>Page 4</b>	<b>Support for home-educating families</b> <b>The questions in this section are about ways in which families who educate children at home could be best supported to do so.</b>
15	22	What might be done to improve access to public examinations for children educated at home?
16	23	What good practice is there currently in local authority arrangements for supporting home-educating families? Should there be a duty on local authorities to provide advice and support, and if so how should such a duty be framed?
<b>Page 19-20</b>	<b>Page 5</b>	<b>Other matters</b> <b>This section asks questions about some specific issues connected with home education. It also allows for general comments to be made on current arrangements for home education, and possible changes.</b>
17	24	Should there be a financial consequence for schools if a parent withdraws a child from the school roll to educate at home? Yes/No Response box
18	25	Should there be any changes to the provision in Regulation 8(2) of the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 requiring local authority consent to the removal of a child's name from the roll of a maintained special school if placed there under arrangements made by the local authority?
19	26	Are there any other comments you wish to make relating to the effectiveness of current arrangements for elective home education and potential changes?
20	27	What data are currently available on the numbers of children being educated at home in your local authority area?
21	28	Do you have any comments on any of the contents of the call for evidence document in relation to equality issues?
22		Text from pdf document: Comments are also invited on the revised DfE guidance documents for local authorities and for parents on current arrangements for elective home education (the online response form allows for comment on separate sections of the documents).

Q No. in Call for Evidence	Q No. in On-line Response	Text of question taken from on-line response form.
23		Do you think that anything in the revised guidance documents could have a disproportionate impact, positive or negative, on those with 'relevant protected characteristics' (including disability, gender, race and religion or belief) and if so, how?

*N.B. The following questions do not appear in the Call for Evidence.*

### **Questions on draft revised DfE guidance on home education: for local authorities**

Q No. in Call for Evidence	Q No. in On-line Response	Text of question taken from on-line response form.
	<b>Page 6</b>	<b>Draft revised DfE guidance on home education: for local authorities</b> This section invites comments on different sections of the draft revised guidance document about the current framework for home education, which DfE proposes to publish for local authority use. Copies of the draft document can be downloaded from the Overview page.
		The current DfE guidance document on elective home education can be found at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elective-home-education">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elective-home-education</a>
	29	Comments on Section 1: What is elective home education?
	30	Comments on Section 2: Reasons for elective home education - why do parents choose to provide it?
	31	Comments on Section 3: The starting point for local authorities
	32	Comments on Section 4: How do local authorities know that a child is being educated at home?
	33	Comments on Section 5: Local authorities' responsibilities for children who are, or appear to be, educated at home
	34	Comments on Section 6: What should local authorities do when it is not clear that home education is suitable?
	35	Comments on Section 7: Safeguarding: the interface with home education
	36	Comments on Section 8: Home-educated children with special educational needs (SEN)
	37	Comments on Section 9: What do the s.7 requirements mean?
	38	Comments on Section 10: Further information

## Questions on draft revised DfE guidance on home education: for parents

Q No. in Call for Evidence	Q No. in On-line Response	Text of question taken from on-line response form.
	<b>Page 7</b>	<b>Draft revised DfE guidance on home education: for parents</b> <b>This section invites comments on different sections of the draft revised guidance document about the current framework for home education, which DfE proposes to publish for parents.</b> <b>Copies of the draft document can be downloaded from the Overview page.</b>
	39	Comments on Section 1: What is elective home education (EHE)?
	40	Comments on Section 2: What is the legal position of parents who wish to home educate children?
	41	Comments on Section 3: So what do I need to think about before deciding to educate my child at home?
	42	Comments on Section 4: If I choose to educate my child at home, what must I do before I start?
	43	Comments on Section 5: What are the responsibilities of your local authority?
	44	Comments on Section 6: Further information

## Question on draft guidance documents: equality issues

Q No. in Call for Evidence	Q No. in On-line Response	Text of question taken from on-line response form.
	<b>Page 8</b>	<b>Question on draft guidance documents: equality issues</b>
	45	Do you think that anything in the revised guidance documents could have a disproportionate impact, positive or negative, on those with 'relevant protected characteristics' (including disability, gender, race and religion or belief) - and if so, how?

## Almost Done

Q No. in Call for Evidence	Q No. in On-line Response	Text of question taken from on-line response form.
	<b>Page 9</b>	<b>Almost Done</b>
		You are about to submit your response. By clicking 'Submit Response' you give us permission to analyse and include your response in our results. After you click Submit, you will no longer be able to go back and change any of your answers. If you provide an email address you will be sent a receipt and a link to a PDF copy of your response.
		If you provide an email address you will be sent a receipt and a link to a PDF copy of your response. Email address