

# 10 things you should know about Elective Home Education



1

Elective Home Education (EHE) is where the parents or carers of a child decide to educate their child at home instead of sending them to a school. The parent or carer then has full responsibility for providing a full time education suitable for the child's age and ability and any special educational needs they may have.

2





Parents choose to home educate for many reasons, for example cultural, religious, philosophical, or to meet specific SEND needs.  
*Elective home education is not an appropriate option for parents/carers who want to avoid prosecution for non-attendance at school or because of a disagreement with a school.*

3

Parents are required to inform the school in writing if they intend to home educate their child. The school will then inform the local authority.

4

Parents do not have to ask permission to begin educating a child at home *unless* the child attends a special school. If a child does attend a special school then parents must consult with the local authority who will advise if this is agreeable.

5	The local authority is not able to offer parents/carers any financial help towards educating a child at home. Parents need to consider the cost of writing equipment, text books, paper, examination fees, college placements etc.
6	Parents do not have to teach the National Curriculum but should consider the impact it may have on the child if the National Curriculum is not followed. The child may fall behind in terms of their social/academic achievement compared to other children his or her own age who are attending a school.
7	Parents are able to teach their child on any day of the week and choose the hours that they feel are suitable. Children in schools receive around 25 hours education a week over 38 weeks a year and this is considered to be full time education.
8	Safeguarding of children is everyone's responsibility, and parents/carers who home educate are still required to co-operate with professionals working together to promote and safeguard the welfare of children according to the arrangements of the <a href="#">Northumberland Strategic Safeguarding Partnership</a> (or NSSP).
9	In the majority of cases, families who home educate provide their child with a great education. Occasionally a parent cannot meet the needs of their child. If it appears that the education being provided is unsatisfactory the local authority could issue a School Attendance Order which will require the child to be placed on a school roll.
10	The most recent government guidance on elective home education can be viewed and downloaded <a href="#">here</a> . Northumberland also publishes local guidance for parents which can be viewed and downloaded <a href="#">here</a> . If you would like further information or if you have decided that elective home education is not for you after all, then please contact the Education Welfare team for advice and support.
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