



Elective home education

What is it?

Every parent has the right to home educate their child.

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 states:

“The parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him to receive efficient full-time education suitable –

- *(a) to his age, ability and aptitude, and*
- *(b) to any special educational needs he may have, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.”*

Elective home education (EHE) is a choice by parents to provide education for their children at home - or at home and in some other way which they choose - instead of sending them to school full-time.

Parents should never be pressured into making a decision for Elective Home Education by any professional.

Elective Home Education – what parents need to know

- Parents must provide their child with a suitable, full-time education that meets the child's needs according to age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs while they are of compulsory school age. A child becomes compulsory school age on the first day of the school term following their fifth birthday. They continue to be of compulsory school age until the last Friday in June in the school year that the child turns 16.
- Parents should notify school in writing that they wish to remove their child from the school roll.

- Parents of home educated children are responsible for all associated costs, such as books, resources, educational websites subscriptions, tutors and exam fees.
- Parents of children with EHCPs should notify their SENDAS officer who will arrange an EHC review.

What will the Bolton local authority EHE officer do?

The EHE officer will:

- Send an email with useful information about where to find resources and other sources of support.
- Have a telephone conversation within six weeks to review the education that is in place and offer advice.
- Meet with you at home or in a mutually agreed venue at least once per year to discuss the education you are providing and that it is suitable.
- Inform the school nursing team that you have registered as EHE so that they can ensure your child has access to the same services that they would in school.
- Advise on the process for applying for a school should you choose to do so.
- If education is not suitable, the EHE officer will advise you on what improvements are required to ensure the education is suitable.

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5 Minute Facts

What can the local authority do to check the standard of education?

Under Section 436A Education and Inspections Act 2006, local authorities must make arrangements to identify children of compulsory school age in their area who are not registered pupils at a school and are not receiving suitable education other than at school.

The EHE officer will make informal enquiries about the education your child is accessing and will offer you a variety of ways in which to provide this information.

Under Section 437(1) Education Act 1996, local authorities shall intervene if it appears that the parents are not providing a suitable education.

The local authority can serve a notice in writing to the parent asking the parent to demonstrate that the child is receiving a suitable education and setting a specified period of time in which the parent must demonstrate this. That period of time should not be less than 15 days from the date on which the notice was served.

If the parent fails to satisfy the local authority within the notice period that they are providing the child with a suitable education, the local authority can serve a school attendance order on them.

The school attendance order can name a school that the child should attend. This is usually a last resort and will only be done when all reasonable steps have been exhausted.

For more information...

Visit the [Bolton Council website](http://www.bolton.gov.uk) or email ehe@bolton.gov.uk

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www.mylifeinbolton.org.uk

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