



Elective Home Education

AN INFORMATION SHEET BY THE TRAVELLER MOVEMENT

Electively home educating a child or young person is understandably challenging for any parent or guardian, and such a decision should be made carefully. Failing to provide effective education at home can negatively impact a child's future opportunities and may lead to criminal action against the family, including fines or imprisonment.

Home education is not a stress-free option; it often involves significant challenges, such as effectively engaging a child in their education and assuming legal responsibility for providing appropriate education.

WHO CAN HOME EDUCATE?

Elective home education occurs when a parent chooses to educate their child at home. Under the Education Act 1996, parents have a legal right to do this, but the education provided at home must meet specific criteria:

Full-time: Education must be provided consistently throughout the week.

Efficient: It must effectively achieve its intended goals.

Suitable: The education must be relevant to the child's age, ability, and aptitude, catering to any special educational needs.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS SEN?

If your child has SEN and is enrolled in a special school, you must obtain the council's permission to home educate. However, you do not need permission if your child attends a mainstream school, even if they have an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP).

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