

## Leicester City Council

### ADCS Electively Home Educated survey 2021

The numbers of children and young people who are electively home educated are not routinely captured via a national data return.

Since 2016, ADCS has issued a survey to all LAs to understand more about this cohort of children, the support on offer to them and their families and how services are arranged. This year's survey has a greater focus on the impact of Covid-19 during the 2020/21 academic year and the number of children and young people electively home educating.

In 2019 the DfE consulted on a register of all children and young people who are not educated in school and a duty on LAs to provide support to all EHE families who request it. We are still awaiting the outcome of that consultation, but the information gathered by this survey will help inform our ongoing conversations with the DfE. It is therefore vital that we receive as high a response rate as possible so please do complete as much of the survey as you can. The deadline for responses is Friday 12 November.

Please complete this survey using school census day (Thursday 7 October 2021) data.

#### Section1: Data

*1. On 7 October 2021, how many children and young people were you aware of being electively home educated in your local area?*

624

*2. As of 7 October 2021, what percentage of your statutory school aged (5 – 16) population are electively home educated?*

0.5% - 1.0%

*3. How many formal notifications for elective home education were made between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021*

397

*4. How many notifications were made from mainstream schools?*

266

*5. How many notifications were made from special schools?*

1

*6. Please rank, in order from highest to lowest, the Key Stage groups with the highest number of notifications for EHE between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021.*

1. Key Stage 1 - 57

2. Key Stage 4 – 81

3. Key Stage 2 - 116

4. Key stage 3 - 121

*7. During 2020/21 academic year, how many local children were known to be electively home educated at any point across the academic year (the cumulative total)?*

948

*8. Please provide any further comments regarding emerging trends you are seeing, including any potential trends during the beginning of the 2021/22 academic year.*

Significant numbers of new EHE cases were from independent schools (same in previous year). Many children have returned to school.

## **Section 2: Cohort**

*9. Please indicate the top 3 reasons given by parents/carers for choosing to electively home educate, as captured on 7 October 2021*

Health/emotional health

Health concerns relating specifically to Covid-19

Philosophical or lifestyle choice

*10. What percentage of the total number of children who are electively home educated have an education, health and care plan (EHCP) as captured on 7 October 2021?*

0-5%

## **Section 3: Support for EHE families**

*11. Has your offer of support for children and families who are electively home educating changed as a result of the pandemic? If yes, please choose the most relevant option(s) below.*

Telephone calls

*12. Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to Question 11.*

Due to pandemic and due to the number of cases, we moved to EWO contact being via telephone as first action. Then doorstep home visit if unable to contact. (Then referral to EHE Adviser as usual.

*13. How many schools/education settings in your LA offer to host external candidates for exams?*

0

*14. How many other settings in your LA host external candidates for exams e.g. exam centres?*

0

*15. Is current national guidance for LAs on elective home education clear? If no, please provide comments. If yes, please leave blank.*

It is clear that the guidance is not prescriptive about what constitutes a suitable education otherwise. What does assist is case law.

## **Section 4: Vulnerable children**

*16. Where an EHE child is identified as not receiving a suitable education, does your authority record this as a child missing education (CME)? If yes, how many were recorded as a CME? If no, please indicate this in your answer.*

36

*17. What percentage of your total elective home educating cohort are known (current) to children's social care e.g. are a child in need*

0-5%

*18. What percentage of your total elective home educating cohort are known (historic) to children's social care e.g. are a child in need*

6-10%

19. *Beyond children's social care, what percentage of electively home educating children are known (current) to wider children's services e.g. early help?*

11-15%

20. *Beyond children's social care, what percentage of electively home educating children are known (historic) to wider children's services e.g. early help?*

11-15%

21. *Are you aware of children who are electively home educated in your area attending unregistered or illegal schools? If 'yes', please indicate how many and provide any further comments.*

We brought one provider to the attention of Ofsted and have worked closely with them. Latest position is that this is not an illegal provider (they reduced the hours of tuition)

### **Section 5: Arrangements of local services**

22. *What was the budget on co-ordinating and/or providing home education in the last full academic year (2020/21)?*

£62,000

23. *What was the actual spend on co-ordinating and/or providing home education in the last full academic year (2020/21)?*

£65,000

24. *How many FTE staff work in this area, co-ordinating and/or supporting home educating families?*

1.5FTE

25. *If the government introduced a statutory duty on LAs to provide support to EHE families, including an annual visit, how many additional FTE members of staff would you need?*

3FTE

26. *Please use this space to leave any additional comments you have on the national policy context or specific issues and trends in your locality, particularly in relation to the impact of Covid-19 on this area of work. Please also use this space to share details of local policies or practices you think might be of interest to others.*

There were exam centres prior to the pandemic linked to independent schools but we understand that this is no longer available for EHE families.