

Home Education Information

1. Purpose of Document

This document covers the procedures that are followed by Slough Borough Council (SBC) when parents decide to educate their children at home. This document will be updated when DfE provide further guidance following their consultation on home education which closed on 2nd July 2018. There is a summary flowchart in Appendix A.

2. Current Process

Initial Notification

Pupils can only be removed from a school roll in very specific circumstances, outlined in the Pupil Registration Regulations 1996 and schools must notify local authorities when pupils are removed from the roll. This information is sent to the Attendance Team.

For children attending special schools the Local Authority (LA) must give permission for the child's name to be deleted from the register.

Schools must not persuade parents to home educate to avoid exclusion or as a result of poor attendance.

When the LA Attendance Team receive details about a pupil being home educated they will check whether the child is known to social care and let the current social worker know that the child is being educated at home.

Annual Visits

Slough Borough Council offers all parents who are home educating an annual visit. The visits are arranged by Littledown School.

The Attendance Team let Littledown School know when a pupil is being home educated so that an initial visit can be arranged with the parents, usually within 6 weeks. A qualified teacher and another member of staff complete each visit. Visits for pupils with an EHCP will include a member of staff from SBC's SEN Team.

Following each visit a short report is completed. In a minority of cases the education being provided will appear to be unsatisfactory in terms of the quality of provision, personal development and well being. Parents may have difficulties providing education or the pupil may not engage with the parent(s). All reasonable steps are taken to assist parents. The visit report is returned to SBC's Attendance Team.

Next Steps

The visit report is reviewed and a decision taken about the next steps. In most cases no further action is necessary.

In a small minority of cases parents may not be providing a suitable education. Further support will be provided but in some cases the LA may have to issue an Attendance Order to return the pupil to school.

On some occasions parents may decide voluntarily to apply for a school place. Staff visiting will assist as far as possible and provide advice about the online application process.

Number of Pupils Home Educated

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Primary	32	39	57	74
Secondary	34	56	67	71
Total	66	95	124	145

Appendix A

Summary Flowchart

