

We are pleased to say that lots of you have been chatting with us to help improve the EHE service each LA offers. This month we have some interesting news about EHE training from external sources.

Home Education

Official Newsletter From Educational Freedom

November 2024

Building relationships between LAs and Home Educators.



WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS THE SAME GOAL

Or are we?

Over the past few weeks, we've had wonderful conversations with EHE teams across the country. Many share our goal of supporting home educated children and their families to thrive, offering guidance and accurate, helpful information without causing distress. We'll be working closely with these local authorities to ensure their policies and procedures are as supportive as possible, fostering trust so the home education community knows they can turn to the EHE team when needed.

However, this level of support is still not consistent across many local authority areas. We extend an open invitation to collaborate with you in enhancing your service. Reaching tens of thousands of home educators each year, we aim to confidently assure families that engaging with their local authority is a positive experience. Currently, this is only true for a few authorities, though we're pleased to see more LAs improving with our support.

A few weeks ago, we emailed you with some questions about your service, seeking your opinion on our research and exploring opportunities to build a relationship with you. If you haven't yet responded, we would be very glad to hear from you. This outreach was intended to build a personal connection, not a formal FOI request, we were hoping for an informal discussion rather than a formal written response, therefore we would appreciate a response. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you haven't already.

THE COST OF TRAINING

We are aware of certain self-proclaimed experts offering training seminars and programs on home education. We urge you to exercise caution when considering these types of training. Many of these individuals lack active involvement in the home education community, have no direct experience, and often do not fully understand the legal aspects. Unfortunately, financial motives can drive these offerings, leading to costs that extend beyond monetary—these "experts" can cause significant harm to the home education community as a whole.

Educational Freedom provides specialists in all areas of home education, including home education law, SEN and EHCP, social work and welfare, educational approaches, and more. Please feel free to reach out if you have questions or would like to arrange a meeting with one of our team members.

CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL REGISTER

We strongly believe that home educators should not be included in the proposed register for children not in school. Including them would have no positive impact. Your EHE team already maintains a list of known home educating families in your area. A formal register, backed by the threat of prosecution for non-registration, would create a negative experience and further erode trust in the EHE team. We hope we can rely on your support to oppose a register that includes home educated children. While we fully agree that children missing education need support, targeting home educators will not benefit efforts to address CME.

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