



Home Education Newsletter

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Home education and the risk of losing our rights

We are absolutely fed up that the last gazillion newsletters have been us sharing so much doom and gloom, so we completely understand you're fed up of it too. This is probably the longest running fight we have had in recent decades. But there is more to be done. We are going to keep this fairly simple with a template letter to send to your MP as soon as you can so the MP can attend the debate on the 1st December.

166,498 of you signed the petition to withdraw the children's wellbeing and schools bill, a proposal that will do significant harm to children, and even more to home educated kids. The petition will now be debated in parliament, and we need as many MPs there to support the home educators voice. You can copy and paste the below letter, editing the relevant sections, or deleting them if you don't have the time to get the extra info.

You can find out who your MP is and how to contact them [here](#)

You can get the latest figure for known home educators in your area [here](#).

Please note you must include your name and address for the MP to know you are a constituent.

Letter to send to MP

Dear MP,
MY NAME
ADDRESS

On the 1st December there is a debate in parliament to discuss the recent petition which gained 166,498 signatures requesting the proposed children's well-being and schools bill be scrapped. Whilst I understand that scrapping the bill is unlikely to happen, the debate gives you a fantastic opportunity to share the voice of home educated children. Of which there are at least 120 thousand around the UK.

There are a lot of concerning things in the bill which will do serious harm to children especially home educated children.

Did you know there are approximately **XXX** number of home educated children in **XXX** LA. Many of them in your constituency, many of whom I imagine have written to you previously.

I implore you to attend, to be our voice.

The bill proposes a register (which already informally exists) that requires information above and beyond common sense and in fact would not be possible for a large number of your constituents to even provide leaving them at risk of being fined or losing the right to home educate despite the education being suitable.

It proposes the details of every adult involved in a child's education be provided to the LA, this includes nan, postman, shopkeeper etc but it also requires groups and tutors to provide details to the LA or face a large fine, this will likely result in many services removing access to home educated children including scouts, music groups etc.

There has been no data protection assessment published. The potential data risks created by the changes in this bill are significant.

There are unfair and dangerous proposals limiting deregistration when children's services are involved, the requirement for consent will force some children to stay in a school not able or willing to meet the child's needs or to keep them safe. The proposals require someone who does not know the child the ability to overrule the parents ability to determine what is in the child's best interests. This is regardless of the reason for children's services involvement.

Further, the bill attempts to change the deregistration from special school process. The LA MUST refuse to consent to deregistration if it considers it in the child's best interests. There is no discretion for the LA and no appeal mechanism for parents. And a 6 month ban on requesting consent again regardless of the safety or circumstances of the child.

You may already know how badly LAs overstep. **YOU COULD GIVE EXAMPLES OF HOW YOUR LA OVERSTEPS SUCH AS ENFORCED HOME VISITS, LYING IN WRITE UPS, ACCUSATIONS, MISREPRESENTING THEIR LEGAL DUTY ETC.**

We understand the reasoning behind the bill, however the protections it claims to provide already exist, they are just not used appropriately, the bill does nothing further to protect a single child. The bill is not fit for purpose, it will result in many home educated children being forced into school despite the home education being suitable and parents left with criminal records due to bureaucracy rather than the child's actual best interests.

We need you to share our concerns and be our voice. Even if you agree with most of the bill we hope you will see the points raised are valid concerns and that you will attend parliament to share our concerns.

Do you know who Joy Baker was?

She is the reason you can home educate.

Seriously, one woman changed everything back in the 60s.

Joy fought for over a decade to defend the right of parents to educate their children at home without harassment. The courts ultimately ruled in her favour, affirming that education did not have to take place in school, provided it was “efficient” and “suitable.”

This landmark case established a legal precedent confirming that home education is a lawful and legitimate choice—not a loophole.



This year on the 15th November there will be a FB live event with a number of invited guests talking about home education and the importance of being free to educate our children in a way that is best for them.

[Click here to watch](#)



Buy me a coffee

**Donate the cost of a cuppa to help
ensure we remain free to access**

**And finally, do you have something to say? Do you want to
share your home ed journey with others?**

We are looking to add to our already existing admin team on our Facebook group, new contributors for our public FB page, Instagram, Bluesky and Tiktok, and content creation for our website and newsletters. If you're interested please get in touch.

Educational Freedom

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