
Ealing Council

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Your ref:	Our ref:	Extension:	Date:
	12/1334	0208 825 8367	22nd February 2013

Dear Ms Nicholson,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your request for information received by the Council on 27th December 2012. It has been assessed and the following information is provided in response:

I am carrying out research on the availability of services and support for home educated children with SEN and disabilities throughout England in the wake of the Education Committee's recent Report into Support for Home Education which urged local authorities to comply with statutory guidance and to ensure that home-educated young people with SEN or medical conditions are not being discriminated against.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmselect/cmeduc/559/559.pdf>

1/Could you please tell me:

a/the total number of children in your authority with a statement of SEN

1577

b/the number of home educated children in your authority with a statement of SEN

10

c/the number of home educated children of primary age with a statement of SEN

5

d/the number of home educated children of secondary age with a statement of SEN

5

e/the number of statements for home educated children categorised as having "moderate learning difficulty" (if the authority has a banding system, please could you indicate the number of home educated children within the relevant statement bands)

1

f/the number of statements for home educated children with physical disabilities

0

g/the number of statements for home educated children with speech, language and communication needs

0

h/the number of statements for home educated children with autism spectrum disorders

6

i/the number of statements for home educated children with severe or complex learning difficulties (if the authority has a banding system, please could you indicate the number of home educated children within the relevant statement bands)

3

j/the number of home educated children with a statement of SEN who formerly attended a special school (if known)

6

k/the number of children with a statement of SEN who started home education during the calendar year 2012

2

l/the number of children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than 2 years

5

m/the number of home educated children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than 5 years

1

n/the number of children with a statement of SEN who ceased to be home educated during the calendar year 2012 because they started to attend school

2

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2/Within your authority - not including the provision of assessments/reports for the annual review of the statement of SEN - do home educated children have access to any of the following:

a/educational psychology service

Parents of home educated students with SEN or disabilities would be able to request input and advice from Ealing's Educational Psychology Service. We would undertake assessments and give recommendations, and monitor the impact of any recommendations made.

b/occupational therapy services and equipment

Children with an Ealing GP and with developmental and functional problems related to OT can be referred to the Ealing Paediatric OT Service through a medical referral. Through NHS funding, all children will be seen through clinic appointments with occasional inputs to home and school / nursery within Ealing. The service adopts a family-centred care approach in service delivery with emphasis on enabling and empowering parents to support the child at home. Treatment programmes will be prescribed and demonstrated to the parents by the case therapist to be integrated into the child's daily routine.

For children, living in Ealing, who need home-based equipment for daily life activities, the service will be able to assess, prescribe and order the equipment through the Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES) as the service is acting as an agency for the Ealing Council Social Service OT Team. If the child also needs minor and adaptation of the home environment, the service can also arrange minor adaptation through the ICES and refer the family to the Ealing Council Repair and Adaptation Service (RAS) for major adaptation. Occasionally, the service also involves in certain housing problems experienced by the family.

If the home-educated child is going to be integrated into a mainstream school, the service can facilitate the transition but regular school-based OT input will need to be funded by school / education department. If the child needs to use different specialist equipment in school, this will also be funded by education.

c/speech and language therapy

The SLT service will offer an initial assessment visit at home and a therapy programme agreed for those children with an Ealing GP. Visits will be provided as part of outreach from the relevant special school.

d/CAMHS

Re Access to CAMHS - children who are home educated should have exactly the same input from CAMHS as all other children - and sometimes the children who CAMHS work with become home educated because developmental or mental health issues may or affect their ability to cope at school.

3/Does the authority have a specific policy with regard to provision of services and support listed in Part 3 of the statement when a child with a statement of SEN is home educated?

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If yes, could you please summarise the policy, for example if the authority does not make provision available when a child is home educated

The authority does not have a specific policy. Provision decisions are made on an individual needs basis.

4/How many home educated children with a statement of SEN will be entered on the Alternative Provision Census under the category Not a School, for SEN support (deadline Thursday January 17th)

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/parents/involvement/homeeducation/a0073322/funding-for-home-education>)

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you can request an internal review. Details of the Freedom of Information complaints process can be found at:

http://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/100004/council_and_democracy/578/freedom_of_information/6

Your request for an internal review should be submitted to us within 40 working days of your receipt of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at our discretion.

If you remain dissatisfied by the outcome of the Internal Review you have the right to submit your complaint to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Davina Donnelly
Freedom of Information Officer