



Wrexham County Borough Council

Response/Digest FOI: FOI2761

Department: Lifelong Learning

1. The Lifelong Learning department does hold the information requested.
2. Please see responses below:

Fiona Nicholson, Educate Yourself at Home.org:

I am carrying out a survey of current practice in all local authorities in Wales with respect firstly to the home education guidelines, Inclusion and Pupil Support - Section 6 - Elective Home Education (1), and secondly with respect to Estyn's inspection criteria for home education services.(2)

I would be very grateful if you could answer the following questions. Please be aware that I will be seeking permission to publish all responses on my website here <http://edyourself.org/articles/FOIwales2012.php>

1/ How many School Attendance Orders has the authority served in the past 12 months?

NIL

2/ Does the authority have a named contact within the authority who is familiar with home education policy and practice and who has an understanding of the relevant legislation and a range of educational philosophies?

Yes.

3/ If yes, to question 2/ could you please supply me with details of the named contact?

Mr Dafydd Ifans
Head of Education Transformation & Workforce Development
Tel: 01978 295404

4/ Does the authority send information to parents through the post?

Yes.

5/ If yes to question 4/ could you please give examples of the type of information which the authority has sent in the past 12 months?

- Education Otherwise Than At School (EOTAS) Guidance for Parents.
- Covering letter to parents sent with Guidance.
- Education Otherwise Than at School (EOTAS) home visit reports.

6/ Does the authority make contact with home educating families on an annual basis in order to seek a meeting or request an updated report?

Yes.

7/ Does the authority offer any support to home educating families?

Yes.

8/ If yes to question 7/ could you please give examples of the type of support offered in the past 12 months?

Home visit report with comments and recommendations.

9/ In relation to the guidance issued by Estyn in 2010, does the authority provide helpful guidance for parents educating their children at home when requested to do so?

Yes in the document 'Education Otherwise Than At School (EOTAS) Guidance for Parents.'

10/ How many children in elective home education residing in your area have a statement of special educational needs?

Two.

11/ Does the authority have a formal policy or protocol document regarding children who are educated at home and who have special educational needs, or additional learning needs?

Referred to in the document 'Education Otherwise Than At School (EOTAS) Guidance for Parents' under the section 'Does your child have special educational needs?'

12/ If yes to question 11/ could you please supply me with a copy of the relevant policy/protocol document?

Please see attached document.

References

(1)

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/pupilsupport/inclusionpupilsupportguidance/section6/?lang=en>

(2)

<http://www.estyn.gov.uk/english/inspection/inspection-guidance/local-authority-education-services-for-children-and-young-people/>