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**Strategic Commissioning & Community
Complaints, Members
Enquiries & Freedom of
Information**

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MS FIONA NICHOLSON
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Your ref :

Our ref: FOI/ E14124

Date: 24/01/2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

Freedom of Information Act 2000
Request for Information: Information Provided
Please quote our reference: E14124
Subject: Home Tuition and Statements of SEN

We write with regard to your recent enquiry for information held by the Council under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We trust that the information provided is satisfactory. You are free to use the information for your personal use only. Any other type of re-use, for example, publishing the information or issuing copies to the public will require permission of the copyright owner. If the Council is the copyright owner, a licence can be applied for under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005.

For future reference we publish information on our website, including the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme and a summary of Freedom of Information requests and responses that may be of help to you in searching for information. Our website is as mentioned above.

It is important to note that under the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003 the Council asks not to receive unsolicited marketing communication.

Request and Response

Thank you for your request.

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	As at January 2013 Statements of SEN totalled 616.
	b. the number of home educated children in your authority with a statement of SEN	EHE totalled 5.
	c. the number of home educated children of primary age with a statement of SEN	Primary school aged totalled nil.
	d. the number of home educated children of secondary age with a statement of SEN	Secondary school aged totalled 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)	Moderate learning difficulty totalled nil.
	f. the number of statements for home educated children with physical disabilities	Physical Disabilities totalled nil.
	g. the number of statements for home educated children with speech, language and communication needs	SLCN totalled nil. However, there are 2 with Autistic spectrum disorder (noted below) who may or may not have communication difficulties
	h. the number of statements for home educated children with autism spectrum disorders	ASD totalled 2
	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)	Complex learning difficulties totalled 3 (2 PMLD & 1 SLD).

	j. the number of home educated children with a statement of SEN who formerly attended a special school (if known)	None of the above have attended special schools. Previously at maintained mainstream schools.
	l. the number of children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than 2 years	Home Ed > 2 YRS = 0
	m. the number of home educated children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than 5 years	Home Ed > 5 YRS = 0
	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	Home Ed Ceased = 1
2.	<p>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:</p> <p>a. educational psychology service b. occupational therapy services and equipment c. speech and language therapy d. CAMHS</p>	<p>"If the child's Statement of Special Educational Needs stipulates input from any of these services, the needs and any potential input from the LA would be considered on an individual basis."</p> <p>Parents can also go through their GP for specific referrals i.e speech therapy</p> <p>Guidance from the Department of Education is that Parents who elect to home educate their children have always taken on the full financial responsibility for their child's education. However, local authorities have the discretion to provide support to enable a home educated young person to attend a further education college or to support a home educated child's special educational needs. It is a matter for the local authority to determine what support to give, but they should be satisfied that the support being provided contributes to the overall education of the child and provides value for money.</p>
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?	The statement can also specify any provision that the local authority has agreed to make under section 319 to help parents to provide suitable education for their child at home.

	If yes, could you please summarise the policy, for example if the authority does not make provision available when a child is home educated	
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)	None. This category is not entered on alternative provision census as they are not educated by elective home education, they are educated at home by parent/guardian. However, where the Local Authority provide this support It is allowable to record the child on the Alternative Provision Census and so receive funding from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

If you require any further information or are not happy with our response please do not hesitate to contact a member of our team on (020) 3373 7912 or email us at information.governance@newham.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Complaints, Members Enquiries and Information Governance
Newham Council