

## Rhondda Cynon Taff Freedom of Information Response November 2012

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

**None**

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, the Head of Educational and Child Psychology Service undertakes this role with support from AWS.**

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

**This is not possible at the moment as the service is undergoing a restructure. Contact should be made with the Educational and Child Psychology Service in the first instance and any queries will then be forwarded to the relevant member of staff. Contact Tel. No. (01443) 744000.**

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

**Yes. We have guidance for professionals and parents.**

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

**An information pack has been sent out to all parents of children who are electively home educated. A member of the Educational and Child Psychology Service has been in contact with parents/carers of all children/young people who are home educated and offered a home visit from a psychologist.**

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, via discussions at the annual meeting but further meetings and telephone support can be provided should parents/carers require this.**

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

**A home visit to establish whether the teaching opportunities provided are appropriate to the learner and to ensure that the child/young person's needs are met. It is also an opportunity to provide support and guidance to the family and the child/young person in question and to provide information on other agencies if appropriate. This has included liaison with the careers service and guidance on local college placements in some cases.**

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, always when parents/carers make contact and routinely when we are advised that a parent/carer has decided to electively home educate their child.**

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

**None**

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?

**There is reference in the main policy document to the EHE of pupils with SEN. There is no other additional documentation.**

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

**The EHE policy document is available on RCT's Moodle site: <https://rctmoodle.org/rctmoodle/>**