

Swansea Freedom of Information Response October 2012

1. How many School Attendance Orders has the authority served in the past 12 months?
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?
3. If yes, to question 2/ could you please supply me with details of the named contact?
4. Does the authority send information to parents through the post?
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?
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?
7. Does the authority offer any support to home educating families?
8. If yes to question 7/ could you please give examples of the type of support offered in the past 12 months?
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?
10. How many children in elective home education residing in your area have a statement of special educational needs?
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?
12. If yes to question 11/ could you please supply me with a copy of the relevant policy/protocol document?

1. None in respect of Elective Home Education
2. This is currently under review, currently the home education visits are done by a range of home tutors who undertake the role of 'monitoring' and supporting families, the proposal is that this will change to one person in the near future
3. Susie Johnston, Home Tuition Team Leader
4. 01792 405689
5. Yes
6. Information sheet containing contact information for home education groups, SNAP etc .
Web addresses
7. Yes
8. Yes
9. Usually verbal advice dependant on the needs of the family in respect of curriculum and access to careers
10. 12 although a small number are on part timetables so attend school part time
11. We do not have a formal policy or protocol document but the process is that In Swansea it is the SEN Panel which makes recommendations re statement, provision and placement, which are then ratified by senior officer sign off.
A parent wishing to home educate would notify the Local Authority formally of their intention. These cases would then be considered by SEN Panel as described above. This includes cases where parents propose a specialist programme which the LA will then fund (for example some ASD programmes)
If parents elect to home educate, and the LA agrees, the statement is maintained and the LA has the continuing responsibility to ensure that the education provided meets the identified needs. In these cases the parents convene annual reviews and the LA would generally be represented by the EP with review information being fed back to the LA for consideration.