

SUPERSEDED

“Plain English” consultation document 2012

<http://edyourself.org/walesplainenglish.pdf>

As expected, the Education (Wales) Bill introduced July 1st 2013 had no mention of home education. Plans to change the law in Wales were dropped at the start of 2013 <http://edyourself.org/articles/EnglandandWales.php> "The consultation exercise closed on the 23 November, over 550 responses have been received. I have asked my officials to undertake a thorough analysis of the consultation responses as I want to ensure all views to the proposals are fully considered. Due to the large volume and detail of the responses this is going to take time and is not something I want rushed. In order to facilitate this process I believe it would be beneficial to delay taking forward the legislative proposals in the current Education (Wales) Bill."

Read the Minister's statement here December

2012 <http://edyourself.org/leightonandrewsstatementdec21.pdf>

Links

On the consultation web page there are 2 versions of the consultation document and 2 versions of the consultation response form, namely the standard version and the "Plain English" version.

Click [here](#) to download a 3 page document giving both the Plain English and Standard Version of the consultation questions.

[consultation web page](#)

[standard consultation response form](#)

[Plain English consultation response form](#)

Under "properties", the Plain English version of the consultation response form says it was created by Gwynneth 04/09/2012, 13:53:00 and modified by CollardM (with the latter probably being the web analyst)

The author of the Plain English consultation response form is not credited but the Plain English version of the consultation document says it "has been prepared for the Welsh Government by Learning Disability Wales. by Learning Disability Wales" <http://www.learningdisabilitywales.org.uk/about.php>

Summary Questions

Question 1: Home Education Register; Question 2: Failure to register; Question 3: Working together; Question 4: First meeting; Question 5: Annual review place of meeting; Question 6: Refusing registration; Question 7: Notice of registration; Question 8: Any other comments

Question 1: Home Education Register

STANDARD VERSION QUESTION 1 DO YOU AGREE THAT A REGISTER SHOULD BE KEPT AND THAT IT SHOULD BE A REQUIREMENT TO REGISTER IF A PARENT ELECTS TO HOME EDUCATE?

Plain English Version Question 1 Do you agree with our proposal that requires children educated at home to be included on a register?

Question 2: Failure to register

STANDARD VERSION QUESTION 2 DO YOU AGREE THAT IF A PARENT FAILS TO REGISTER OR PROVIDES INADEQUATE OR FALSE INFORMATION THEN THE CHILD BEING HOME EDUCATED SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND SCHOOL?

Plain English version Question 2 If the parent fails to register their child, does not give all the information we ask for or gives false information, should their child have to go to school?

Question 3: Working together

STANDARD VERSION QUESTION 3 DO YOU AGREE THAT HOME EDUCATING PARENTS SHOULD ENGAGE WITH THEIR LOCAL AUTHORITY TO ENABLE THEM TO ASSES THE SUITABILITY OF THEIR HOME EDUCATION PROVISION?

Plain English version Question 3 Do you agree that parents should work with their local authority to make sure home education is meeting their child's needs?

Question 4: First meeting

STANDARD VERSION QUESTION 4 DO YOU AGREE THAT THE INITIAL MEETING BETWEEN THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND HOME EDUCATING PARENT SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE MAIN LOCATION WHERE THE EDUCATION IS BEING PROVIDED?

Plain English version Question 4 Do you agree that the first meeting to join the register should take place where the child is going to be home educated?

Question 5: Annual review place of meeting

STANDARD VERSION QUESTION 5 HOW OFTEN SHOULD THE ANNUAL MONITORING MEETINGS WITH BOTH THE HOME EDUCATOR AND THE HOME EDUCATED CHILD TAKE PLACE AT THE MAIN LOCATION OF EDUCATION?

Plain English version Question 5 Parents, the child and local authority staff will meet once a year, to talk about the child's development. How often should this annual meeting happen at the place where the child is being home educated?

Question 6: Refusing registration

STANDARD VERSION QUESTION 6 DO YOU AGREE THAT REGISTRATION SHOULD BE DENIED OR REVOKED IN THE LIMITED SET OF CIRCUMSTANCES SET OUT IN THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT? (NOT SUPPLIED IN THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM SO NEED TO CROSS-CHECK WITH THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT <http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dcells/consultation/120902registeringmonitoringen.pdf> which appears on the consultation page described as "Registering and monitoring home-based education" pdf)

From the consultation document page 6: The LA would only be able to refuse a new application or revoke an existing registration in a very limited set of circumstances:

- if the parent fails to satisfy the LA that they are fulfilling their duty under section 7 of the Education Act 1996
- if the LA becomes aware of new or existing welfare or safeguarding issues that affect the suitability and effectiveness of the education provided
- if the parent fails to cooperate with monitoring and/or reasonable requests to monitor

Plain English version Question 6 Should parents be refused registration or have their registration overturned, if: the education offered does not meet the child's needs, or puts the welfare or the safety of the child at risk? Parents will not let the local authority check that the child's education is suitable?

Question 7: Notice of registration

STANDARD VERSION QUESTION 7 DO YOU AGREE THE AMOUNT OF TIME TAKEN BETWEEN RECEIPT OF APPLICATION TO REGISTER AND NOTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION OUTCOME SHOULD BE NO MORE THAN 12 WEEKS?

Plain English Version Question 7 Parents should be told within 12 weeks whether they can educate their child at home

Question 8: Any other comments

Responses to consultations may be made public on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to be kept confidential, please tick here

What Is Welsh Government Proposing?

- **Changing the law in Wales to permit compulsory registration and routine annual monitoring of home educated children**
- **Using existing powers to develop statutory guidance on best practice for LAs working with home educating families**
- **Future consultation on definition of "suitable education" in context of variety of educational approaches used in home education, to be "covered in statutory guidance and consulted on separately."**
- **Qualified expert assessment of suitable education in cases where home educated child has special/additional needs**

Must Read: 13 page Consultation Document

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dcells/consultation/120902registeringmonitoringen.pdf> (Registering and Monitoring Home Based Education Consultation Document (13 pages) The consultation closes on November 23rd 2012.

Data Protection

Consultation web page <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/education/registeringandmonitoring/?lang=en&status=open>

Are you: a home educated child/young person? a home educating parent? someone else? What you tell us may be made public on the internet or in a report. If you DO NOT want your comments to be made public, please tick this box.

"Any response you send us will be seen in full by Welsh Government staff dealing with the issues which this consultation is about. It may also be seen by other Welsh Government staff to help them plan future consultations. The Welsh Government intends to publish a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish responses in full. Normally, the name and address (or part of the address) of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. This helps to show that the consultation was carried out properly. If you do not want your name or address published, please tell us this in writing when you send your response. We will then blank them out. Names or addresses we blank out might still get published later, though we do not think this would happen very often. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 allow the public to ask to see information held by many public bodies, including the Welsh Government. This includes information which has not been published. However, the law also allows us to withhold information in some circumstances. If anyone asks to see information we have withheld, we will have to decide whether to release it or not. If someone has asked for their name and address not to be published, that is an important fact we would take into account. However, there might sometimes be important reasons why we would have to reveal someone's name and address, even though they have asked for them not to be published. We would get in touch with the person and ask their views before we finally decided to reveal the information."