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Suitable Education in New Guidance 2

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The government wants to change the home education guidance in England and has published a **draft** showing the proposed new version. **The new draft guidance** provides a checklist for “suitable education”. “Assessment of suitability” is new as is measurement of literacy and numeracy which would have the effect of **narrowing the definition of education**, which by law has to be suitable to age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs.

The new guidance is not ready to be used. It is still at the draft stage. The consultation closed 18.1.24. The current guidance remains in force until such time as a final new version is published. The current guidance can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elective-home-education>

Suitable Education

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 explains what is meant by suitable education for a child educated “otherwise” than in school. “The parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him to receive efficient full-time education suitable—(a) to his age, ability and aptitude, and (b) to any special educational needs he may have, either ...

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My Comments

1. The current guidance already has a bullet point list although in the 2019 guidance it appears much later in the document at paragraph 9.4. There is a link to my page on the current guidance at the foot of the page
2. There are subtle shifts in **the new draft** which would have a significant impact overall
3. The **new draft** requires families to demonstrate “sufficient secular education” which translates as measuring the child’s levels of literacy and numeracy
4. “Assessment of suitability” is the big idea in **the new draft guidance**, implying that this is an active and potentially lengthy process of gathering the evidence required to complete the assessment and make a judgement of “suitability”

Safeguarding in New Guidance 2

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Current Guidance

Guidance

The current version of home education guidance for local authorities in England was published in April 2019. The emphasis is on ensuring LAs are fully aware of existing powers and duties. The Home Education Guidance does not introduce any new powers or duties for local authorities to monitor the suitability of home education nor any ...

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