

# Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting:	08 January 2020
Title of Report:	<b>Elective Home Education</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Jon Taylor (Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Transformation)
Lead Strategic Director:	Alison Botham (Director for Childrens Services)
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Your Reference:	AB.IM.131119/1
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

## **Purpose of Report**

To provide an update regarding the DfE consultation on proposals for legislation that would establish a register maintained by local authorities of children not attending mainstream schools, together with other associated duties.

The report also serves to provide an update in relation to the development of the Home Education Policy within the city and the partnership work that has been undertaken with home educators to date.

## **Recommendations and Reasons**

To note the contents of the report.

## **Alternative options considered and rejected**

None, this is a report only.

## **Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan**

This report supports 'A Growing City'. It helps to make sure children and young people benefit from regular education in order to achieve; develop the necessary skills to be productive citizens who can make a sustained contribution to both the society and economy of the city. It will also help to reduce inequalities within the city.

The work reflects our values of co-operation between partners and the recognition that as a society, we are responsible for each other.

The report supports 'A Caring Plymouth – Focus on prevention and early intervention'. The document provides an overview of the support offered to young people, children and their families where home education is a concern in order to take timely steps to resolve and make sure the appropriate support is in place.

**Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:**

None, this is a report only.

**Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:**

None, this is a report only.

**Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:**

**Child Poverty:** Supporting children and young people to remain in school provides a routine for parent/carers which allows them to take paid employment and reduce the impact of child poverty. It improves children's potential for future employment, education and training.

**Community Safety:** (due regard to preventing crime and disorder): Children who are missing education are at an increased risk of child exploitation and anti social behavior. It is important to safeguard children who are vulnerable by ensuring children are seen and supported by professionals and families to reduce this risk.

**Health and Safety** (any health and safety implications): Building effective relationships with families and schools provides oversight and monitoring that identifies when a child is at risk, or vulnerable and in need of support. This identification enables support to be arranged in a timely way.

**Risk Management** (to identify any risk management issues): The management of children missing education and concerns arising regarding successful inclusion in school enable both action to be taken to safeguarding the individual child, and take steps to reduce the impact of this for other children. Close working with school and other partners is important to achieve this outcome effectively.

**Appendices**

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Elective Home Education Update							

**Background papers:**

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7


**Sign off:**

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Judith Harwood											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 19/12/2019											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Jon Taylor ( <i>approved verbally</i> ) Date approved: 04/10/2019											