

Shropshire Council

Elective Home Education Policy

February 2025

EHE (Elective Home Education) webpage:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-attendance-or-exclusion/elective-home-education/>



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This policy has been developed in line with national guidance to local authorities issued by the DfE in April 2019. This document should be read in conjunction with other DfE guidance, which is not limited to, but includes:

[Elective home education: departmental guidance for local authorities \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/798422/elective-home-education-departmental-guidance-for-local-authorities.pdf)

[SEND Code of Practice January 2015.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/798422/send-code-of-practice-january-2015.pdf)

[Working together to safeguard children 2023: statutory guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/798422/working-together-to-safeguard-children-2023-statutory-guidance.pdf)

Section 1: Introduction and reasons for Elective Home Education

All children of compulsory school age have a right to an education. However, this does not have to take place in a school.

Elective home education (EHE) is the term used by the Department for Education (DfE) when parents decide to provide education for their children at home instead of sending them to school. It is not home tuition provided by a local authority, or where a local authority provides education otherwise than at a school. Shropshire Council respects parents' choices and will routinely accept and support their decision to home educate their children, providing that a suitable education is taking place and that it is not detrimental to their safety or wellbeing. Further steps will be taken to explore the suitability of the request where there are safeguarding, or child protection concerns about the child or young person.

The purpose of this document is to set out the current position and outline the processes and procedures in Shropshire. These procedures relate to the home education of children of compulsory school age and aim to promote constructive contact between the local authority and parents to ensure the best outcomes for children. Parents opt for home education for a variety of reasons, some of which may be distance or access to a local school; religious or cultural beliefs, philosophical or ideological views; a short-term intervention for a particular reason; child's unwillingness or inability to go to school.

Section 2: The law relating to elective home education.

The responsibility for a child's education rests with their parents. In England, education is compulsory for children aged 5 to 16, but school is not. Article 2 of Protocol 1 of the European Convention on Human Rights states that:

"No person shall be denied the right to education. In the exercise of any functions which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching, the State shall respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching is in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions".

This right is enshrined in English law and parents have a duty to secure an appropriate full-time education for their children. Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 provides that:

"The parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him to receive efficient full-time education suitable to

- (a) his age, ability and aptitude, and
- (b) any special educational needs he may have,

either by regular attendance at school or otherwise".

Whilst home education should be full-time, it does not have to follow school hours and terms.

Section 3: Parental responsibilities

Under section 576 of the Education Act 1996, a parent is defined in relation to a child or young person as also including any individual:

- (a) who is not a parent of his but who has parental responsibility for him, or
- (b) who has care of him.

There are varied approaches families may use to provide a suitable education. What may be suitable and successful for one child, may not be for another. The law requires that each child receives an education suitable to them as individuals (Section 7 of the Education Act 1996). This includes the option of electing to educate their children at home at any point during their children's compulsory education.

Home education can be enormously rewarding but it may make huge demands on a family. It requires financial resources, time, energy and commitment and is a significant undertaking for anyone. Parents are advised to thoroughly research what is involved before making a decision - and are encouraged to talk to the local authority Education Access Service when considering their options. It is often beneficial to talk to other home educators and national EHE organisations that can offer advice and support when parents first consider home education and throughout their journey.

Before making the decision to electively home educate, families are encouraged to seek advice and early support from the Early Help and Support Team. The contact details and information about the services they offer are available at: [E-HAST \(Early Help and Support Team\) | Shropshire Council](#)

Families who remain interested in electively home educating their child or young person are encouraged to access the resources provided by the Education Access Service available at: <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-attendance-or-exclusion/elective-home-education/>

Where a child has been registered at a mainstream (maintained or independent) school, **parents must notify the school's headteacher**, in writing, that their child is receiving education otherwise than at school and that their child should be removed from the school's roll.

Parents are not required to register or seek approval from their local authority in order to educate their children at home **with the following exceptions:**

- (a) consent to de-register a pupil must be obtained if a child is placed at a special school under arrangements made by the local authority.
(Regulation 8(2) of the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2002).
- (b) when a child is registered at a school as a result of a school attendance order (SAO), parents must ask the local authority to revoke the order.
(Ensuring Regular School Attendance – DfES, 2003, paras 6 - 16).
- (c) there are safeguarding considerations to explore to ensure a child is not placed at greater risk of harm by removing the protective factor of attending school.

The type of educational activity can be varied and flexible. There is no specific legal requirement as to the content, as long as parents are meeting their duty in Section 7 of the Education Act. Parents who educate their child at home may choose to, but are not required to:

- teach the National Curriculum or provide a broad and balanced curriculum.
- have a timetable or observe school hours, days or terms.
- have premises equipped to any particular standard or have set hours during which education will take place.
- have any specific qualifications or make detailed plans in advance or provide formal lessons.
- mark work done by their children or formally assess progress or set development objectives.
- enter their child for public examinations.
- reproduce school type peer group socialisation.

See this link for more information - [Educating your child at home - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/educating-your-child-at-home)

Parents who choose to educate their children at home must be prepared to assume full financial responsibility. Please also note that children who receive free school meals when enrolled in a school will not be entitled when being home educated. Although there is no obligation for parents to use any specific resources to support home education, costs incurred could include for example books/resources/stationery, tutoring, registration for e-learning courses/online schools, alternative provisions or public examinations/qualifications.

Section 4: Local authority role and responsibilities

The local authority will have a named officer who is responsible for Elective Home Education (EHE). Guidance for parents and carers and their families will be provided by the Local Authority. Training and regular updates will be provided for the LA practitioners who work with home educated children and their families.

Under Section 437(1) of the Education Act 1996, the Council can intervene if there is good reason to believe that parents are not providing a suitable education. The local authority also has a duty under Section 175(1) of the Education Act 2002. This section states:

“A local authority shall make arrangements for ensuring that the functions conferred upon them in their capacity as a local authority are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children”.

Section 175 (1) does not extend local authorities' functions. It does not, for example, give local authorities powers to enter the homes of, or otherwise see, children for the purposes of monitoring the provision of elective home education.

Schools must not persuade parents or influence their decision to educate their child at home as a way of avoiding: exclusion, poor attendance, challenging behaviour and/or potential poor academic success. In the case of exclusion, statutory guidance must be followed in relation to exclusions. If the child has a poor attendance record, the school and local authority must seek to address the issues

behind the absenteeism and use other interventions available to them. When a parent chooses to home educate due to dissatisfaction in the public education system, Shropshire Council may use this information to investigate and challenge the causes.

Section 5: Procedures and De-registration from School

De-registration of a child from a school is covered by paragraph 8(1)(d) of the Pupil Registration Regulations (England) 2006. **Schools/settings** should make reference to EHE procedures in their own Safeguarding and Child Protection policy and how this operates with in line with DfE Elective Home Education guidance and Shropshire Council processes and protocols. This includes how their own setting works with the LA and other key professionals to coordinate a meeting with parents/carers to ensure that they have considered what is in the best interests of each child. This is particularly important where a child has special educational needs or disability, and/or has a social worker and/or otherwise vulnerable.

Parents who wish to home educate their children who are registered at a maintained/ independent school, **must** inform the school formally and in writing of their intention to de-register.

When a parent notifies the school in writing that they are home educating, the **school** must delete the child's name from the admission register and **must inform the local** authority. This is in accordance with the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024, where a school must make a return to the local authority when a pupil's name is deleted from the admission register. However, where parents orally indicate that they intend to withdraw their child to be home educated, the **school should consider notifying the local authority at the earliest opportunity.**

When a school is informed by parents of their intention to home educate, the **school** should invite the parents and, if appropriate, the child, to discuss their decision. They can also invite a member of the **Education Access Service** to attend this meeting so that the local authority can ensure parents are fully informed of what is involved when taking the decision to home educate. This is particularly important when a parent makes a decision to home educate in response to an incident at school or as a means of avoiding a particular issue, such as actions related to the child's attendance or behaviour.

Shropshire Council recognises that home-educating parents are under no legal duty to register their details with the local authority. However, by doing so parents assist the local authority in ensuring that all children in Shropshire are receiving the education they are entitled to. **Parents who elect to home educate are therefore requested to contact the local authority either by telephone, email or letter:**

Email address: eas@shropshire.gov.uk
 Address: EHE Team
 Education Access Service
 The Guildhall
 Shrewsbury SY3 8HU

Telephone number: 01743 254397.

When the local authority is notified that a child is being withdrawn from school, it will acknowledge receipt of this notification and further contact will also be made by the Education Access Service to

provide information and documents pertaining to home education. The Early Help and Support Team (EHAST) will contact the family to see if they require any wider support and offer a whole family assessment if appropriate. (See Appendix A)

The Education Access Service are always available to address any questions or concerns parents and children may have. A variety of information can be found on the EHE webpage at:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-attendance-or-exclusion/elective-home-education/>.

The local authority will consider whether there is any indication, either in their own records or from other services/agencies, that there may be a cause for concern over the withdrawal of the child / young person. The local authority also considers the views expressed by the child / young person. Previous irregular attendance at school is not in itself a sufficient cause for concern, but the reasons for the child's absences may be. In some cases, parents and their children have reached a crisis point, for example, with bullying. In these circumstances, it is strongly recommended that parents seek advice and support from the Education Access Service.

Specific instances where there may be concerns include:

- where a child has been referred to Children's Services or the police for child protection reasons and the matter is being investigated, including under a Section 47
- where a child is subject to a Child Protection Plan
- where the child is the subject of a Supervision Order
- where there is a history of condoned absence, unmanaged truancy or other on-going, low-level concerns that may lead to child protection procedures.

Where there are safeguarding or child protection concerns about a child or young person, the school must inform the local authority of these before they remove the child's name from the admission register. This is to enable the local authority to explore the concerns raised and identify whether removing the child from the school roll would cause additional risk factors to the child, placing them at increased risk of harm.

The local authority should otherwise assume that efficient educational provision is taking place, which is suitable for the child, unless there is evidence to the contrary.

The local authority, under section 436A of the Education Act 1996, has a duty to establish the identities of children in its area who are not receiving a suitable education. In order to fulfil their section 436A duty, local authorities are entitled to make informal enquiries of parents to establish what education is being provided. Shropshire Council makes informal enquiries initially through the offer of a visit. When parents prefer not to have a visit, an alternative educational report will be requested.

With regards to the informal enquiry, the DfE Elective home education guidance for parents document advises:

“As parents you are under no legal obligation to respond, but if you do not, the local authority is entitled to conclude from the absence of any response that it appears that your child is not receiving a suitable education, with all the consequences which can follow”.

In the absence of a response, the local authority will initially work to resolve this by verifying that the contact details of the family are correct. They will attempt a range of different methods of communication which may include a visit, telephone call, an email and a letter. When a visit is not conducted, a report is not received and no other method is provided to satisfy the local authority the EAS practitioner will most likely consider the Child as Missing Education (CME) and may then institute formal attendance procedures in accordance with the provisions of Section 437 of the Education Act 1996.

Section 6: Providing an “efficient and suitable” full-time education.

There is no definition of a ‘suitable’ education in English statute law. Although ‘suitable’ education has been described as one that ‘primarily equips a child for life within the community of which he is a member, rather than the way of life in the country as a whole, as long as it does not foreclose the child's options in later years to adopt some other form of life if he wishes to do so’.

To support the local authority to reach the decisions called for in section 437 of the Education Act 1996 as to the suitability of education, DfE guidance for local authorities (April 2019) suggests that the term ‘suitable’ should be seen in the following light:

- it enables a child to participate fully in life in the UK by including sufficient secular education.
- it supports the development of the local and wider community (section 13 of the Education Act 1996), and promotes the welfare and safeguarding of children (section 174 of the Education Act 2002)
- it includes opportunities for literacy and numeracy development.
- it seeks to promote meaningful contact with peers and to reduce risks of isolation.
- it takes place within environments that are safe and supportive.
- although it is not a legal requirement, many families choose to follow the National Curriculum or the independent school standards prescribed by the Secretary of State.

An efficient education within the meaning of section 7 is one which achieves what it sets out to achieve. It should be noted that this is not the same as the education being ‘suitable’. It is possible to deliver an efficient education which is not suitable for the child; conversely it is possible to deliver a suitable education very inefficiently.

There is no legal definition of full-time in terms of education at home. Children attending school normally have about 5 hours’ tuition for 190 days a year, spread over 38 weeks. Home education does not have to mirror this. Education which occupies a considerable proportion of a child’s life will

probably meet the section 7 requirement. The local authority will use discretion in reaching a judgement, as home education is often more flexible than mainstream schooling and includes continual one-to-one contact and education outside of normal school times and during holiday periods.

The frequency with which the local authority will contact parents to discuss their ongoing home education provision will vary depending on the individual circumstances of each family. Ordinarily, initial contact is made by the Education Access Service typically within 3 to 6 months of a child becoming electively home educated and then on an annual basis to offer a meeting in the home or to request a written report. Parents are not legally required to give access to their home or for their child to be present. They may, for example, choose to meet the officer at a mutually convenient/neutral location instead. Members of the Education Access Service are required to demonstrate professional curiosity to meet the safeguarding requirements of the Shropshire Safeguarding Partnership. Therefore, questions may be asked about the home environment, family circumstances involvement of family members and any other visitors to the home or location where the child or young person is being educated.

When the Education Access Service asks for information, parents can provide evidence that their children are receiving a full-time, efficient and suitable education in a number of ways. It may be presented in any form, as long as this would demonstrate its appropriateness for the child's age, aptitude and ability. As outlined in the 2007 EHE guidelines, parents might for example:

- write a report.
- provide samples of work
- invite the EHE team member to their home, with or without the child being present.
- meet the EHE team member elsewhere, with or without the children.
- have the educational provision endorsed by a recognised third party.
- provide evidence in any other appropriate form.

In their consideration of parents' provision of education at home, the local authority may reasonably expect the provision to include the following characteristics:

- consistent involvement of parents - it is expected that parents would play a substantial role, although not necessarily constantly or actively involved in providing education.
- recognition of the child's needs, attitudes and aspirations.
- opportunities for the child to be stimulated by their learning experiences.
- access to resources/materials required to meet the objectives of the parents – such as paper and pens, books and libraries, arts and crafts materials, physical activity, ICT and the opportunity for appropriate interaction with other children and adults.

Following a visit/meeting or on receipt of a written report, the local authority will provide a response to parents stating whether or not there are any concerns about the education provision. Where there are concerns about the efficiency or suitability of the education being provided for the child, more frequent contact may be required. Where concerns merit frequent contact, the local authority will discuss these

concerns with the child's parents, with a view to helping them improve the provision in the best interests of the children.

If, when further considering the educational provision, one or more of the above characteristics detailed appears to be lacking, the local authority may choose to further investigate whether or not an efficient and suitable education is, in fact, being provided. A full written report on the findings will be made and copied to the parents promptly, specifying the grounds for concern and any reasons for concluding that the provision is unsuitable. Once parents have been given a reasonable opportunity to improve their provision and report back and the local authority continues to not be satisfied that efficient education is being provided, consideration will be given to the child being considered as a Child Missing Education (CME). They may institute formal attendance procedures in accordance with the provisions of Section 437 of the Education Act 1996.

In all but exceptional circumstances, if a child needs to return to school, they will be re-enrolled into the school from which they were originally de-registered.

Section 7: Support for children and families

Home education is a big commitment for a variety of reasons and sometimes families will need additional support. Often, pathways to support are made through signposting and referrals by a child's school. We want to ensure that families who home educate can easily access the same services as children on a school roll. The EAS website has information that families may find helpful to refer to - [Elective home education | Shropshire Council](#)

When a child is de-registered from school, the Early Help and Support Team (EHAST) will contact parents to make sure they are aware of all the help and support available to them, particularly when a child has experienced problems engaging with learning. Details are available at: [E-HAST \(Early Help and Support Team\) | Shropshire Council](#) Families are encouraged to make contact with the Early Help and Support Team (EHAST) before making the decision to home educate.

Section 8: Safeguarding

Local authorities have a duty under section 175(1) of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children:

“A local education shall make arrangements for ensuring that the functions conferred upon them in their capacity as a local education authority are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.”

Section 175(1) does not extend local authorities' functions. It does not, for example, give local authorities powers to enter the homes of, or otherwise see, children for the purposes of monitoring the provision of elective home education.

Keeping Children Safe in Education statutory guidance (KCSIE September 2024) paragraph 179 states that many home-educated children have a positive learning experience. We would expect the parents' decision to home educate to be made with their child's best education and best interests at the heart of the decision. However, this is not the case for all. Elective home education can mean that some children are not in receipt of suitable education and are less visible to the services that are there to keep them safe and supported in line with their needs. In these circumstances it would be reasonable to expect to see the child in their home learning environment, which is often the main venue for their education.

Parents may choose to employ other people to educate their child, though they themselves continue to be responsible for the education provided. They will also be responsible for ensuring that those they engage are suitable people to have access to children. Parents are strongly recommended to take up appropriate references and/or request the tutor completes a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.

The welfare and protection of all children, both those who attend school and those who are educated by other means, are of paramount concern and the collective responsibility of the whole community. As with school educated children, safeguarding or child protection issues may arise in relation to home educated children. If any child protection concerns come to light in the course of engagement with children and families, or otherwise, these concerns should immediately be referred to the appropriate authorities using established protocols in line with [Keeping children safe in education 2024](#)

The contact for advice and support from Early Help and the First Point of Contact is 0345 6789021. In case of an emergency where a child is in immediate danger call 999

The Shropshire Safeguarding Partnership page can be found here - [Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership](#)

Shropshire's approach is for our Inclusion practitioners in the Education Access Service to have a blended role so that this supports positive and productive working with families and enables the practitioner to follow the child or young person if their situation or status changes – for example from EHE to one of missing education or inclusion.

On notification that a child or young person is going to be electively home educated, the Education Access Service (EAS) triage the situation, gathering safeguarding information from the notification form which includes previous or current Social Worker involvement, plus any relevant information from Early Help. The practitioner in EAS will also contact the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for information if there is an indication of safeguarding concerns. Where safeguarding issues or

concerns for welfare are present at the point of de-registration from school, the local authority will hold a multi-agency case discussion to determine the appropriate pathway or intervention for these children and young people. Additionally, the EAS practitioner will schedule a home visit as a priority for those children and young people who are currently in need (CIN), those with a child protection plan (CP Plan) or where there is a current Section 47 investigation.

Where there are safeguarding or child protection concerns about a child or young person, the school must inform the local authority of these before they remove the child's name from the admission register. This is to enable the local authority to explore the concerns raised and identify whether removing the child from the school roll would cause additional risk factors to the child, placing them at increased risk of harm.

For Electively Home Educated children and young people who become supported under a Child Protection Plan, the expectation is that the Child Protection Chair will strongly recommend a return to school (that being their previous school in most cases). If the child or young person is already supported with a Child Protection Plan the expectation is the Chair will not agree a de-registration from school roll and Elective Home Education. Either way the decision will then be included in the Child Protection Plan.

However, each child and young person's personalised needs will be considered to ensure outcomes from the multi-agency decision-making process are in their best interests. It is the expectation that the Child Protection Chair will consider non-compliance from families on this matter as an additional risk factor and take this into account when reviewing the Plan. This includes working collaboratively with EAS practitioners around considering whether the child is identified as 'missing education', whether there is 'educational neglect' and potential use of an Attendance Order when relevant and appropriate.

As part of this decision-making process, Children's Social Care will consider individual situations which may, in exceptional circumstances, include short term support around transport (including those readily and freely available in the community) to help the family make the adjustment towards the child or young person accessing full time education. It is also acknowledged that some children and young people may have identified health or emotional needs that affect their attendance and a period of reintegration may be required. Schools have a responsibility to make adjustments where there are recognised health needs and the Inclusion Pathway in Shropshire can be utilised for advice/support around integration into educational provision where this is relevant.

Additionally, 'Working Together' meetings in the local authority will ensure priority action and oversight of suitable education for vulnerable groups including those who are Electively Home Educated and on CIN and CP Plans.

Section 9: Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Parents' right to educate their children at home applies equally when their children have SEND. Where parents elect to home educate a child with an **EHCP** who is registered at a mainstream school, the child can be removed from roll on receipt of written notification from the parent to the headteacher.

Local authority approval is not required, irrespective of whether or not the child / young person has an EHCP, unless they are registered at a **specialist school**.

If an **EHCNA process** is being followed for a child/young person, please refer to Section 5 of this Policy. If parents/carers intend to withdraw their child to be home educated where there is an ongoing EHCNA process, the **school should consider notifying the local authority at the earliest opportunity – and in this case also specifically notify the EHCP Team**.

Where there are safeguarding or child protection concerns about a child or young person, the school must inform the local authority of these before they remove the child's name from the admission register. This is to enable the local authority to explore the concerns raised and identify whether removing the child from the school roll would cause additional risk factors to the child, placing them at increased risk of harm.

Where a child has an EHCP and is home educated, it is the local authority's duty to ensure that the educational provision specified in the plan is made available to the child / young person, unless the parents have made arrangements for suitable education in some other way.

If the home education is deemed suitable, the local authority has no duty to arrange any special educational provision. In such circumstances, the EHC Plan should simply set out the type of special educational provision that the child / young person requires but state that parents have made their own arrangements under S7 of the Education Act 1996.

The local authority will determine whether the home education is suitable and will conduct an annual review of the EHC Plan. The local authority EHCP (Special Educational Needs) Team will therefore continue to maintain the child / young person's EHC plan and review it annually following procedures set out in the 2015 SEN Code of Practice. Following recommendations made through the annual review meeting, the local authority will determine whether to amend, cease or continue to maintain the EHCP.

Local authority EHCP case officers will organise an interim annual review to be held within four weeks of receipt of notification that a child is to be home educated. Parents will always be invited to attend and fully participate in the review in their role as lead educators of their child / young person.

Parents of electively home educated children / young people who do not have an EHCP but who may have SEN are entitled to request an EHC Needs Assessment. Details of how to make a request and what to include are contained in Shropshire's Local Offer page: <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/>. The local authority must consider the request within the same statutory timescales and in the same way as for all other requests.

Section 10: Looked After Children

In most cases if a child / young person is looked after, the local authority would not normally expect the child to continue to be home-educated. It is the Corporate Parent's duty to secure an admission and appropriate education for them. The education and attendance of all children who are looked after will be monitored by the Virtual School Head Teacher and more information can be found here - [Shropshire Virtual School | Shropshire Council](#). If a Shropshire looked-after child's carer, parent or social worker states their wish or intention to electively home educate a Shropshire looked after child a request must be put in writing to the Head Teacher of the Virtual School for consideration and consultation will take place with Social Care Managers.

Section 11: Private Fostering

If a child is under the age of 16 (or 18 if they are disabled) and they go to live with someone who is not a legal guardian or close relative for 28 days or more, this is classed as a 'private fostering' arrangement. The adults concerned must notify Children's Services who will ensure that the care arrangements are suitable for the child and whether any additional support is required.

Further information can be found at [Private Fostering Arrangements | Guidance | Shropshire Fostering](#). Foster parents acting within private fostering arrangements should follow the same processes as other parents and will need to carefully consider whether elective home education is in the best interests of the child they are caring for.

Section 12: Flexi-schooling

Flexi-schooling is an arrangement of providing a full-time education to a child where the child attends school part of the time and is educated elsewhere, usually by the parent, for the rest of the time. It is an individual arrangement made between the school and the parent.

Parents will need to prove to the head teacher that flexi-schooling is in the best interests of the child, for example by writing a proposal explaining the benefits for the child and practical examples of how the arrangement will work between the school and parent. However, the Headteacher will decide whether they are willing to enter into a flexi-school agreement. The governing body may be involved in agreeing and reviewing a general approach to requests for flexi-schooling, but this does not exempt the Headteacher from the need to consider each request individually.

Children who are flexi-schooled are treated by the law as being full-time pupils of the school, but a separate agreement is reached by parents with the school to allow the child to take part in 'approved educational activities' during school hours and away from the school. Legally the overall responsibility for the child receiving a suitable education and remaining safe sits with the school. Children who are flexi-schooled are not included on the local authority list of electively home educated children.

If it appears to the school that parents are not providing a suitable education as agreed, the school may ask the parent to take remedial action. If the parent declines to do so or the school continues to have concerns about the provision of education at home, the school may withdraw its agreement to the flexi-schooling arrangement. The child would then be required to return to school on a full-time

basis whilst they remained registered, or the parent makes a decision to electively home educate on a full-time basis.

Section 13: Contacts

Responsibility for elective home education sits within Learning and Skills and within the Education Access Service. The EAS team's role is to liaise with parents regarding their children's education. They are DBS checked and undertake specific and relevant training as required.

Email address: eas@shropshire.gov.uk

Address: EHE Team, Education Access Service
The Guildhall
Shrewsbury SY3 8HQ

Phone number: 01743 254397.

Webpage: <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-attendance-or-exclusion/elective-home-education/>

Section 14. Retention of Information

The access to education team at the local authority will keep details on the EHE register for the duration of the child / young person's statutory schooling, or until the parent make a request that they no longer wish to remain registered with the local authority as electively home educating their child – and at this point the child will be removed from the EHE register. For further information please find the link to our website here [Shropshire Council's privacy notice | Shropshire Council](#)

Section 15: Complaints procedure and comments/feedback

If parents / carers wish to express positive feedback about their experience this can be made through the Shropshire website - [Complaints, comments and compliments | Shropshire Council](#)

If, however, there is dissatisfaction with any aspect of our policy or procedure in relation to EHE please make contact with the Education Access team so that we can work together to try and resolve your concern informally. However, if this is not successful parents/carers may wish to make a formal complaint to Shropshire Council and the process can be found on the website as listed above.

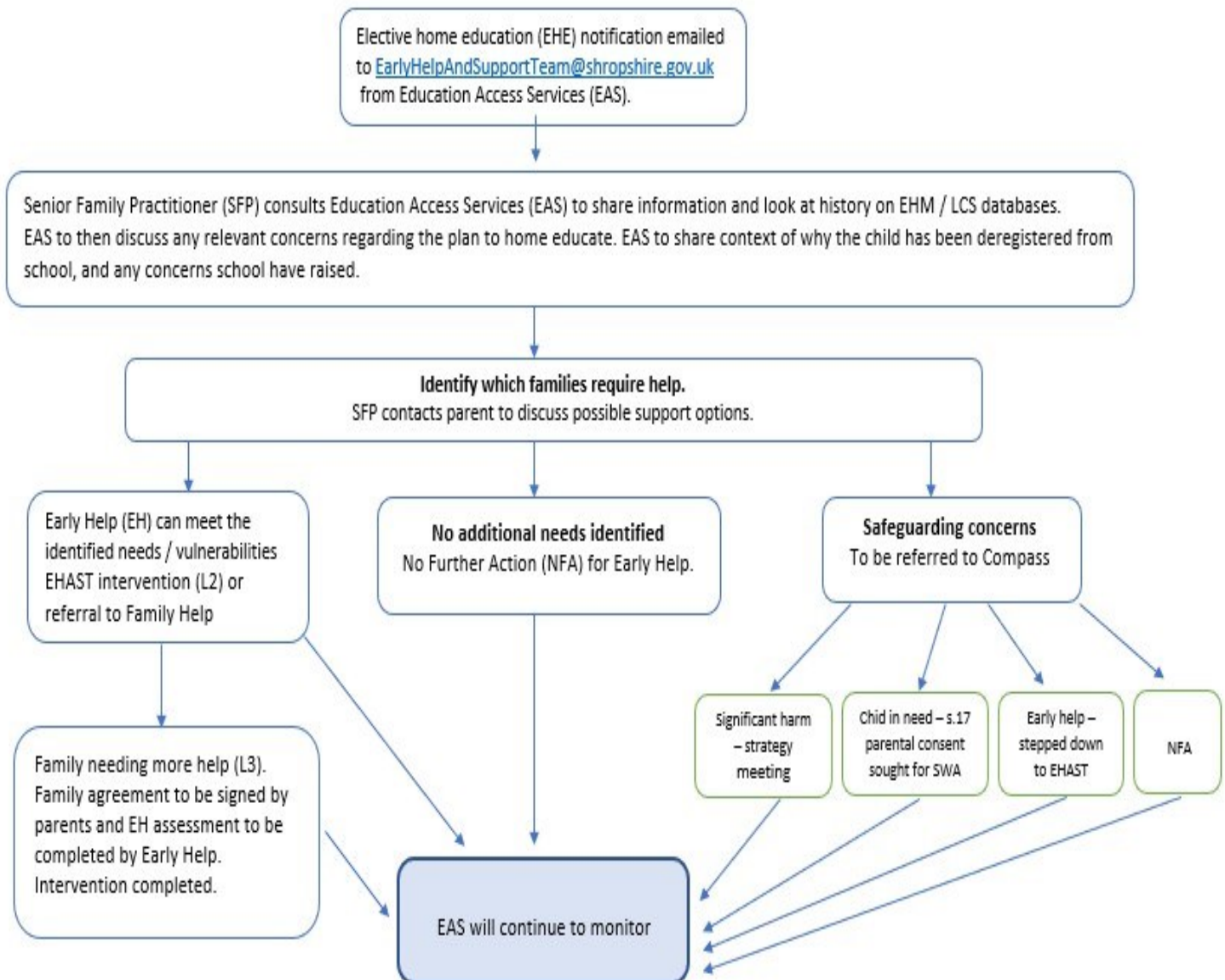
Section 16: Review and development

Shropshire Council will review its procedures and practices in relation to home education on a regular basis. Improvements will be made to further develop relationships with parents and children in order to meet their needs. Home education organisations and home educating parents are encouraged to share their views and feedback with the local authority.

Date reviewed	November 2024
Current version issued	February 2025
Next review date	December 2025

Appendix A

Elective Home Education Standard Operating Procedure – Early Help



February 2025

Appendix B

Protocol for the Child Protection Chair

(Children/young people who are electively home educated and on a Child Protection Plan)

Where there are safeguarding or child protection concerns about a child or young person, the school must inform the local authority of these before they remove the child's name from the admission register. This is to enable the local authority to explore the concerns raised and identify whether removing the child from the school roll would cause additional risk factors to the child, placing them at increased risk of harm.

