

ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION POLICY - London Borough of Barnet

1. Introduction

The London Borough of Barnet (LBB) recognises the right of parents/carers to educate their children at home. Elective Home Education (EHE) is the term used by the Department for Education (DfE) to describe a parent's or parents' decision to provide education for their children at home instead of sending them to school. This is different to home tuition provided by a local authority (LA) or education provided by a LA other than at a school.

This document sets out our recently reviewed policy and procedures to enable Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS), acting on behalf of Barnet council, to ensure compliance with the council's duties towards children and young people living in Barnet whose parents have elected to educate them otherwise than at school. It is published for parents, schools and other agencies with an interest in elective home education.

The DfE "Elective Home Education Guidelines for Local Authorities", published in April 2019, emphasises the importance of Local Authorities building effective relationships with home educators that function to safeguard the educational interests of children and young people: relationships that are rooted in genuine mutual understanding, trust and respect.

This revised policy seeks to build improved relationships with home educators and provide a means to effectively protect the educational and safeguarding interests of children being electively home educated where vulnerabilities are identified.

The purpose of this document is to assist parents, carers and professionals when considering home education and to provide information on the legal position and the role of the Local Authority.

Throughout this document, 'parents' should be taken to include all those who have parental responsibility, including guardians and carers. The term 'child' or 'children' refers to all children and young people who are legally required to receive an education.

2. The law relating to elective home education

The definition within 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 -

(a) to his age, ability and aptitude, and

(b) to any special educational needs he may have, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise."

There is no legal definition of what constitutes a "full-time" education. Measurement of "contact time" in this way is not relevant in the context of elective home education, where the child often has continuous one to one contact with the educator and the types of educational activity which the child follows may be varied and flexible. ECHR Article 2 of Protocol 1 confers the fundamental right to an effective education, and relevant case law also confers very broad discretion on the state in how this is to be implemented. For example, a local authority may specify requirements as to effectiveness in such matters as literacy and numeracy, in deciding whether education is suitable, whilst accepting that these must be applied in relation to the individual child's ability and aptitudes.

Compulsory school age begins on the next prescribed day following a child's fifth birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August each year. A child continues to be of compulsory school age until the last Friday of June in the school year that they reach the age of sixteen.

3. Parental Rights, Responsibilities and Considerations

Parents have a legal right to educate their child at home and are not required to have any qualifications or training to provide their children with a suitable education. The 1996 Education Act makes clear that it is a parent's duty to ensure his/her child receives suitable education in accordance with section 74. In addition, the Act provides that, generally, children are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents.

Parents are not required to inform the local authority that they intend to elect or have elected to home-educate, unless the child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Parents whose child is enrolled at a school should write to the school to inform them that they are electing to home educate, to allow the school to legally remove the child from the school roll. Parents must take additional steps in the following circumstances:

- a) the school is a special school named on the child's Education, Health and Care Plan, in which case consent must be sought to remove the child from the school roll from the SEN team within BELS first. You can contact the SEN team on senadmin@barnet.gov.uk.
- b) the child has an Education, Health and Care Plan, but attends a mainstream school, in which case parents should contact the SEN team to discuss an amendment to the EHCP.
- c) a child is enrolled at a school in accordance with a School Attendance Order; in those circumstances the authority would need to revoke the order (or amend it to replace the school with a different school) before the child can be removed from the roll.

Whilst parents whose child is not enrolled at a school have no legal obligation to notify the local authority that they are home educating their child, parents are encouraged to register their child on the home education register held by BELS. This will allow advice and support to be provided. The Local Authority will offer advice and support through its Elective Home Education website (see appendix to this policy for more information).

Other agencies are also encouraged to notify the local authority of children who are being home educated. The local authority may contact parents of home educated children to enquire about the adequacy of educational provision. Although parents must provide education in accordance with Section 7 of the Education Act 1996, (see paragraph 1 of section 2 above), the type of educational activity can be varied and flexible.

Parents may arrange for other people to tutor their child, though parents themselves continue to be responsible for the education provided. It is recommended that parents ensure that such people are qualified and suitable, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.

Parents who elect to home-educate assume full financial responsibility for their child's education, including the costs of private tuition, courses and public examinations. However, colleges can claim the cost of course fees directly from the Education and Skills Funding Agency on an individual basis for home educated young people under 16 when parents and colleges are able to reach suitable individual arrangements. These individual arrangements are not brokered through the Local Authority but directly between parents and colleges.

4. The Local Authority's Responsibilities

Article 2 of Protocol 1 of the European Convention on Human Rights states:

'No person shall be denied the right to an 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 conviction.'

The council has a statutory duty, under section 436A of the Education Act 1996 to make arrangements to enable them to establish (so far as it is possible) the identities of children in their area who are not receiving a suitable education. This duty applies to all children of compulsory school age who are not on a school roll and do not appear to be receiving a suitable education otherwise than being at school.

It is appropriate that parents and children choose a type of education that is right for them. It is equally important that Elective Home Education (EHE) officers understand and are supportive of the differing approaches or "ways of educating" that are feasible and legally valid. The role of the EHE Team is to respond to concerns that a child is not receiving suitable education for his or her age, ability and aptitude and, where appropriate, provide support and information for parents. It is not the role of the EHE Team to tell parents how to educate their children.

Where there is ambiguity in making a judgement defining the suitability of the education, BELS, acting on behalf of the council, will refer to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Articles 28 & 29 and as a minimum will expect to see evidence of literacy and numeracy progress.

In 2001 the **Committee on the Rights of the Child**, the body of experts that monitors the implementation of the Convention, published a paper (called a General Comment) that explains and elaborates on the right to an education:

General Comment 1 - Annex 9 states: 'Article 29 (1) underlines the individual and subjective right to a specific quality of education' : *Education must include not only literacy and numeracy but also life skills such as the ability to make well-balanced decisions; to resolve conflicts in a non- violent manner and develop healthy lifestyle, good social relationships and responsibility, critical thinking, creative talents and other abilities which give children the tools needed to pursue their life options.*

(The council acknowledges that the **UN Convention of the Rights of the Child** must be seen as a whole and that Articles 28 and 29 should not be looked at or considered in isolation).

A further statutory duty exists, which requires the council to serve a formal notice under section 437 of the Education Act 1996 if it appears that a child of compulsory school age is not receiving a suitable education. The formal notice requires the parent to satisfy that the child is in fact receiving suitable education. If the local authority does not accept the evidence and is not satisfied that the child is receiving a suitable education, it has the power to commence the statutory process for the issue of a School Attendance Order ('SAO') requiring the parent to register the child at a named school. BELS exercises this function on behalf of the council. The local authority also has powers to intervene if there are safeguarding concerns and a lack of evidence of suitable education may result in the local authority exercising its powers.

The local authority has no legal duty to monitor home education on a routine basis although the local authority will make enquiries if it is not clear that a child is receiving suitable education or if a parent is preventing reasonable access to the child for the purpose of establishing whether suitable education is being provided. The local authority sees its role in relation to home education as part of its wider responsibilities, including safeguarding, to all the children in its area.

5. Responsibilities of Schools in Barnet

There is no legal requirement for parents to discuss home education with the school their child is attending. However, if a parent does approach the school to discuss the possibility of home educating, the council expects the school to respond positively and constructively. If parents are considering home education because of a dispute with the school, the LA expects the school to take all necessary steps to resolve the issue. The school should signpost the parent to the EHE service within BELS for further advice and guidance to enable them to make an informed choice.

Departmental guidance for local authorities April 2019 (10.4) makes it explicit that:

‘Schools should not seek to persuade parents to educate their children at home as a way of avoiding an exclusion or because the child has a poor attendance record. In the case of exclusion, they must follow the relevant legislation and have regard to the statutory guidance. If the pupil has a poor attendance record, the school and, if appropriate, local authority should seek to address the issues behind the absenteeism and use the other remedies available to them.’

BELS, acting on behalf of the council, will contact electively home-educating parents who remove their child from a school roll. If it is found that a parent has been ‘encouraged’ by a school to remove their child from roll for the purposes of elective home education, this will be challenged, and the child reinstated on roll when appropriate and with parental consent, whether the vacant place has been filled or not.

When a parent reports that they have been encouraged to remove their child from roll for the purposes of elective home education and then finds that they are unable to cope with the commitment, the expectation is that the council’s Fair Access Panel will name the previous school for placement. This does not negate the parent’s right to apply and appeal for a place of their preference alongside this process, where a parent considers the relationship with the ‘home school’ has broken down.

When a school receives formal, written notice from a parent, that a child is being withdrawn from school in order to be home-educated and the child has ceased to attend the school, the Headteacher should ensure that the pupil’s name is removed promptly from the admissions register in accordance with Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2016. Section 5, paragraph 6:

“where the name of a pupil is to be deleted from the admission register, the proprietor must make a return to the local authority for that pupil as soon as the ground for deletion under regulation 8 is met in relation to that pupil, and in any event no later than the time at which the pupil’s name is deleted from the register.”

In practice, in order to comply with the Regulations, the school must inform BELS of any child leaving school as soon as a school removes a child from the school register. This is actioned through completing an Off-Roll Notification Form. This enables BELS to complete timely checks on children known to the service and address any risks identified.

In the interests of the family, recommended good practice would be for the school to allow a period of 10 school days after deletion of the name from the school register, for the parents to reflect on their decision, having sought further advice and support and to change their mind if they so wish.

The school is responsible for raising any safeguarding concerns relating to a child directly with Barnet MASH. Home Education is not in itself a safeguarding concern. However, if the school is concerned that a child will not receive a suitable education at home, these concerns should be raised with BELS.

The school must retain the child’s school file. Parents can request a copy of this file from the school to assist them in planning their child’s education.

6. Elective Home Education and Safeguarding

The welfare and protection of all children, both those who attend school and those who are educated at home, is of paramount concern and the responsibility of the whole community. Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 imposes a duty on the Local Authority to make arrangements for ensuring that the functions conferred on them are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children resident in Barnet.

The EHE Team will follow Barnet Council safeguarding procedures at all times and work with relevant agencies and individuals to proactively safeguard and promote the welfare of children and, in the event of any concerns about the welfare of a home educated child, initiate and follow established procedures.

Children's services will work collaboratively to proactively safeguard and promote the welfare of children and in the event of any concerns about the welfare of a home educated child, initiate and follow through established safeguarding procedures, which will include sharing information with GPs, health visitors, other health professionals and other multi-agency partners as appropriate in the interest of a child or young person.

The EHE Advisory Teacher and Team Manager will liaise with the council's Family Services on those occasions where there is uncertainty about the welfare of a child or young person. The EHE Advisory Teacher will explain the reasons for any welfare concerns to the parents in accordance with referral procedures.

The council acknowledges that parents can declare an intention to electively home educate at any time. However, where a child is made subject to a child protection plan, or is already subject to a child protection plan, or is a child in need, the council will take the following approach. The conference chair (chair of the case conference reviewing the case) or relevant team manager will make clear that, if the parent/carer has already declared that they are electively home educating or states an intention to do so, the council will consider the possibility of increased risk of significant harm and the need for safeguarding interventions.

On receipt of a declaration to electively home educate, the social worker will update the Child and Family Assessment (the assessment made by Family Services on the case) and the Team Manager will chair a core group meeting or child in need review meeting to:

- Review and reflect any changes in the plan to safeguard the child.
- Assess risks to the child, to include health and well-being and record how the risk is increased as a result of continuing to or starting to educate the child at home.
- Assess the family's EHE Outline Plan.
- Consult with education colleagues and the previous school.
- Amend the plan to reflect the necessary actions that need to be taken and by which professional, which may include the referral to the Fair Access Panel to identify a school place.
- Consider, for children in need, if a strategy meeting is necessary.

The Team Manager will also update the Child Protection Conference Chair.

Where education provision is not immediately available, or the risk assessment indicates that EHE is acceptable, the above professionals and allocated social worker will ensure that the plan will include increased home visits to regularly check that the child is safe whilst not in education and that annual visits from the EHE team will form part of any future agreement with the family should the case be 'stepped down'.

7. Elective Home Education and Special Educational Needs in Barnet

Parents' right to educate their child at home applies equally where a child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Parents of any child subject to the statutory provisions of an EHCP who are considering whether to make their own arrangements should discuss this with their child's school SENCO and/or the named SEN Caseworker in BELS to ensure that they are fully aware of alternatives (amended provision and/or change of placement) and their SEN statutory rights of appeal.

Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS) manages the council's Special Educational Needs Service and acts on behalf of the council in taking statutory decisions in relation to children and young people with special educational needs.

Parents considering whether to Electively Home Educate may wish to familiarise themselves with paragraphs 10.30 to 10.38 of the SEND Code of Practice January 2015.

Parents' right to educate their child at home applies equally where a child has an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP). Under Section 42 of the Children and Families Act (2014) the local authority is responsible for securing the specified special education provision within a child's Education Health and Care Plan, (EHCP); however, this only applies if the child's parents have not arranged a suitable education in some other way. Therefore, if the home education is suitable, the local authority has no duty to arrange any special educational provision for the child.

Where a child or young person is a registered pupil, the parent **must** notify the school in writing that the child or young person is receiving education otherwise than at school and the school **must** then remove the pupil's name from the admission register. However, the school should be minded that, while they are named on the EHCP, Section 66 of the Children and Families Act imposes a duty on the appropriate authority to 'use its best endeavours to ensure that the special educational needs are met'.

If the school is a special school, the local authority **must** give consent for the child's name to be removed, but this should not be a lengthy or complex process. There is no provision in law for a 'trial period' of home education.

Where a child or young person is a registered pupil and the parent decides to home educate, schools (including academies) should, as good practice, call an early review as soon as they are aware of the parent's intention.

The local authority has a duty to review Education, Health and Care plans (EHCPs) annually, following procedures set out in the 'SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years'. Annual Review meetings for electively home educated children will be convened and chaired by the SEN Casework Officer (in BELS). Parents are welcome to be present during the review, but they are not obliged to be.

In order to assess whether home provision is suitable for the special educational needs of the child, parents will be asked to provide information regarding the home education provision. The local authority will only be relieved of its duty to arrange the provision specified in the child's EHCP if it is satisfied that the parents' arrangements are suitable.

If the local authority is satisfied with the parents' arrangements it will continue to have a duty to maintain and review the EHCP annually until it decides to cease the EHC plan, or the EHC plan is transferred to another Local Authority.

In cases where local authorities and parents agree that home education is the right provision for a child or young person with an EHCP, the plan should make clear that the child or young person will be educated at home.

Where it appears to BELS (acting on behalf of the local authority) that a child is not receiving education suitable to age, ability and aptitude and SEN, the procedures set out in Section 10

will be followed. If the EHCP remains in place, it will be maintained and reviewed annually and amended where appropriate.

A parent who is educating their child at home may ask BELS (acting on behalf of the local authority) to carry out a statutory assessment of their child's special educational needs and BELS will consider the request within the same statutory timescales and in the same way as for all other requests.

8. The council's EHE Procedures

Within 10 school days of confirmation from a school, or directly from a parent, that a child is being home educated, the EHE team within BELS will:

- Update the pupil record to reflect home education.
- File the parent's withdrawal letter (clearly stating they have elected to home educate their child), and the EHE off-rolling notification.
- Request information from the school.
- Check for siblings.
- Send a letter acknowledging the parent's intention to Home Educate, introducing the parent to the EHE Advisory Teacher and requesting the completion of a Statement of Provision form (SoP).
- Check Barnet's Family Services database to identify if the child is subject to an Early Help Assessment, Child in Need, or Child Protection Plan (open or closed).
- Contact the allocated case worker if the pupil has an EHCP.

The team will collate data which will identify any trends or patterns regarding children who are removed from a school roll to home educate and highlight any perceived unlawful practices by schools and report to the Headteacher in the first instance.

Notes:

a) *EHE registrations will not be processed for Year 6 Children in the second half of the summer term. These children will be recorded as CME until it is confirmed they have taken up the place offered at Secondary school in September; unless the parent has confirmed they will be home educating in Year 7 and have formally declined the Secondary school place, allowing the school to offer the place to those on the waiting list.*

b) *EHE registrations will not be processed for Year 11 Children in the second half of the summer term. These pupils will be recorded as Not in Education, Employment or Training.*

The EHE team will make contact with the parent within 20 school days to offer an initial discussion regarding the proposed plan for the child's education at home and signpost the parent to resources and local groups.

The aim of the discussion will be to initiate a positive and constructive relationship with parents. Parents may exercise their right not to allow the local authority access to the home, the child, or the child's work.

DfE guidance for local authorities April 10 (6.5) states:

'Parents are under no duty to respond to such enquiries, but if a parent does not respond, or responds without providing any information about the child's education, then it will normally be justifiable for the authority to conclude that the child does not appear to be receiving suitable education and it should not hesitate to do so and take the necessary consequent steps. This is confirmed by relevant case law.'

Parents are not obliged to accept a visit from the LA, however they are encouraged to do so, and a meeting can be held at a mutually convenient time and place if the family prefer not to hold the visit in their home. Meetings can also be carried out virtually.

Where one or more of the conditions set out below are met, BELS will invite every child whose parent(s) elect to home educate to participate in a meeting with an EHE Advisory Teacher and the child at a mutually convenient time and place, within 20 school days of receipt of the referral (or sooner if concerns are held or parents request an early visit). The parent may exercise their right not to meet with the local authority, including access to the home, the child, or the child's work. However, BELS will also consider whether this lack of cooperation indicates a safeguarding risk which should be referred to MASH or subject to further enquiries.

List of conditions for such a meeting:

- a) *The child has a history of persistent unauthorised absence (e.g 15% or higher).*
- b) *The child has been previously permanently excluded or has been subject to one or more fixed term exclusions.*
- c) *The child has had current or historic involvement with Children's Social Services.*
- d) *The child holds an Education, Health and Care Plan*
- e) *Family vulnerabilities are identified.*

These are examples of conditions that may lead to the calling of such a meeting. The decision will be made based on the individual circumstances of the child and the family and taking account of whether relevant circumstances have changed recently.

Where any of the criteria for a meeting apply and the EHE Advisory Teacher has sought to agree an appointment with the parent, for a mutually convenient time, date and venue and there are two unsuccessful attempts to meet with the family, the process set out in section 9 below will be initiated and the parent will have the opportunity during this process to provide evidence of their child's education.

Where the above criteria do not apply and parents decline the offer of a meeting, the EHE Team will request information about the education being provided (parents do not have a legal obligation to provide this) and will maintain contact in order to confirm that education continues successfully and to offer support, unless there are any other safeguarding concerns, in which case further enquiries may be made or a referral to MASH. The EHE Advisory Teacher will also offer phone, online or email contact.

Following a meeting, the EHE Advisory Teacher will:

- Arrange the next contact with parents, send a copy of the meeting record to the parent, allowing them the opportunity to ratify the summary before it goes on file and update the case record.
- Send the completed meeting record to the SEND Case Officer and/or Social Worker (where appropriate).

The frequency and format of meetings will be determined by factors such as the EHE Advisory Teacher or the parent identifying concerns about the child's progress and education. Where education is suitable the EHE Advisory Teacher and parent/s will agree on future contact.

The DfE EHE national guidance issued in 2019 states: "Local authorities should ordinarily make contact with home educated parents on at least an annual basis so the authority may reasonably inform itself of the current suitability of the education provided. In cases where there were no previous concerns about the education provided and no reason to think that has changed because the parents are continuing to do a good job, such contact would often be very brief". The council will follow this guidance, aiming to make contact with 'home

educated parents' on an annual basis, varying the nature and length of the contact according to the previous year's assessment of the suitability of the home education provided.

9. Where formal notice is required:

Where no other information suggests that the child is being suitably educated, because there is no information provided, and where the parents have refused to respond to BELS (acting on behalf of the council) or have acted in a way that causes concern, for instance cancelling meetings, the only conclusion which the authority can reasonably come to, is that the home education does not appear to be suitable.

Where it appears to the EHE Advisory Teacher that a suitable education is not taking place, reasonable steps to resolve the situation will be taken by BELS before the School Attendance Order (SAO) statutory process is commenced:

- A letter outlining the concerns will be sent to the parent(s), specifying grounds for concerns and identifying reasons to conclude that the provision is unsuitable.
- Allow the parent the opportunity to address the identified issues and recommendations for improvements within a mutually agreed timescale (no longer than six weeks). These should be discussed and agreed with the parent and confirmed in writing within the EHE team's case record. Parents must satisfy the council (the BELS EHE team acting on the council's behalf) that their child is receiving education suitable to his/her age, ability and aptitude and to any special educational needs he/she may have.
- A referral to family services will be offered to help support the family, where safeguarding or family support needs have been identified.
- After the agreed timescale for improvement, if the education is still believed to be unsuitable, the Children Missing Education Officer within BELS will issue a formal notice under Section 437 of the Education Act 1996. If BELS continues to be dissatisfied with the education being provided, the statutory process for issuing a School Attendance Order will commence. This notice indicates the LA's intention to formally order the parent to register the child at a school. It will identify school(s) the LA deems suitable and allow the parent 15 days to propose alternatives. If the parent does not respond, or does not make satisfactory arrangements elsewhere, the local authority may issue a School Attendance Order (SAO) in accordance with its stated intention.
- Failure to comply with a SAO is a criminal offence for which the parent(s) can be issued with a penalty notice or prosecuted in the Magistrates' Court.

At any stage following the issue of a SAO, parents may present evidence to the local authority (BELS acting on the council's behalf) that they are now providing suitable education and apply to have the Order revoked. If this is refused, parents can choose to refer the matter to the Secretary of State for Education. If as a last resort, the local authority prosecutes parents for failure to comply with a SAO, the parents may be acquitted if they can prove that the child was receiving a suitable education otherwise than at school at the time of the offence. If the parents are acquitted, the court may direct that the SAO shall cease to be in force.

In cases where the EHE Advisory Teacher is unable to contact a family, the record will be closed as an EHE case and opened as a Children Missing Education (CME) case. This role invokes the local authority's duty to children missing education.

10. Complaints Procedure

If you are unhappy about the way the EHE team has delivered its services, then you can make a complaint online by clicking on this link: [Complaints | Barnet Council](#)

You can also make a complaint by telephone: 020 8359 2000 or writing to Barnet Council, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London, NW9 4EW

References

Education Act 1996 www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/contents

Education Act 2002 www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/contents

Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2016

www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/792/contents/made

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006

www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2006/1751/contents/made

DFE EHE guidance for Parents and Local Authorities

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elective-home-education>

European Court of Human Rights Article 2 Amended 2 April 2019

https://www.echr.coe.int/Documents/Guide_Art_2_Protocol_1_ENG.pdf

UNRC Convention on the Rights of the Child <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/convention-text>

Committee on the Rights of the Child https://www.right-to-education.org/sites/right-to-education.org/files/resource-attachments/CRC_General_Comment_1_en.pdf

Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006

www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance

Children and Families Act 2014

www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2006/1751/contents/made

Appendix to the Elective Home Education Policy Document

The BELS Elective Home Education website:

The BELS EHE website has been created as a platform to support, inspire, and assist the development of suitable, varied, and engaging home education programmes.

The website contains information on what elective home education is, to inform parents' decisions and to describe how we will work with families to support the development of their home education programmes and to inform them about what to expect from the BELS EHE team, as well as offering the opportunity, should they wish, to register with us.

The website has information on learning methods, resources, exam and assessment information and external support charities families may want to get in touch with. There's a page for children and young people so that they can use the website, independently, to find fun alternative (but educational) resources to use that keeps them motivated and engaged; as well as an onward journey page to help our young people think about their next steps post-16.

The website has been developed to be as interactive and supportive as possible, so you will find information on how to get further advice from the EHE team, or other BELS services you may need to contact, such as the SEND Local Offer, Admissions and BELS Post-16 team. We hope that EHE families will also send in ideas that have worked for them and any celebration news they have to the EHE email address: EHE@barnet.gov.uk and we will post them on the website.

The website will also be the place to find out about up-and-coming events, not just via the EHE Team, but also through other services such as our Educational Psychology service and Autism Advisory service and Post-16 team. These services have already successfully offered free training to parents.