



Elective Home Education (EHE) - Fact Sheet - Pre-16 College Courses

I'm considering a pre-16 college course, what do I need to know?

The sole responsibility for providing a suitable education lies with the parent/carer when the decision is made to provide home education. This includes planning and delivering an adequate, enriched education and personally meeting any costs incurred for exams, resources, travelling expenses, any extra tuition necessary and regular attendance at a college if your child is on a pre-16 course. In situations where a tutor or online education resource is employed this will need careful research. The Local Authority does not advocate or make recommendations in relation to this.

EHE should not be viewed as a temporary measure, it is a long-term commitment and thought must be given to how the education provided by parents/carers supports children and young people in their preparation for adulthood. Parents/carers are asked to think carefully about how a broad curriculum will be planned and delivered as the child/children mature, ensuring that children are able to be entered for nationally accredited examinations and offered the best possible preparation for adult life.

What are the legal requirements?

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 says:

"It shall be the duty of the parent of every child of compulsory school age to cause him to receive efficient full-time education, suitable to his age, ability and aptitude and to any special educational needs he may have either by regular attendance at school or otherwise".

Nottinghamshire County Council cannot support home education in situations where there is a safeguarding risk to the child or where no education is being provided.

What happens next?

The Education Act 1996 s436a places a duty on local authorities to make arrangements to identify children not receiving education. DFE Guidance for Local Authorities 2019 states:

'5.1 The duty under s.436A dealt with above means that local authorities must make arrangements to find out so far as possible whether home educated children are receiving suitable full-time education.'

In all cases where Nottinghamshire County Council is aware that a child is home educated, enquiries will be made to be satisfied that education being provided is suitable. If it is not, a referral will be made to other services to support a return to school. Half termly meetings are held between colleges and the Local Authority to discuss progress.

If your child becomes at risk of losing their college place, the Local Authority may intervene as appropriate.

What do I need to do?

To participate in a pre-16 college course, it is a requirement that you are recorded with the Local Authority as Electively Home Educated.

Home educators are asked to ensure their GP is aware that their child is Electively Home Educated in order that they can receive essential health updates.

How do I apply for a pre-16 college course?

Forms are available from the college provider and must be processed prior to starting at college. Please make sure that you have read the college entry requirements for the pre-16 EHE course. We also suggest that you arrange a visit to the setting prior to any application.

What if my child needs additional support when at college?

Talk to the college/tutor to see what support is available.

Contact the EHE Team at Nottinghamshire County Council.

Contact your GP for support if appropriate.

What are the expectations?

- Passing entry tests/assessments to access the course
- Regular attendance
- You are recorded as Electively Home Educated with the Local Authority; college will ask who your contact is and will check this
- Travel costs to and from college are met by the parents/carers
- Follow college behaviour policy
- Make progress
- Some courses offered can have a mixture of age groups and interaction with other adult students
- You provide a supplementary demonstration of learning, when requested, to satisfy that your child is in receipt of a full-time education as most college courses are part-time.

How do I submit a demonstration of learning?

A demonstration of learning should accurately and adequately reflect around 18-25 hours per week of suitable learning taking place. Any submissions less than 500 words long will usually be returned and we recommend you complete your submission on a PC or laptop as other devices such as mobile phones have resulted in submissions being returned for further information. Please use all the time given prior to submitting your information to ensure you can provide a narrative of an established learning programme. For

guidance, please consider addressing and including all the following:

- Planned approach to Numeracy and Literacy suitable to the child's age, ability, strengths and individual needs.
- Range of learning opportunities across a variety of subjects, topics, areas suitable to the child's age, ability, strengths and individual needs.
- Assessment of progress and planned learning outcomes.
- Interpersonal skills and opportunities to socialise outside the home.
- Health and wellbeing (physical, social, emotional, including any risk factors).
- The child/young person's strengths, views and aspirations with details of post 16 plans.
- Suitable learning environment and resources – digital (including online safety measures), workbooks, equipment, external provision.

To support our duty under Section 436A of the Education Act 1996 to identify children not receiving suitable education, we review submissions to assess whether the education provided is suitable, efficient, and appropriate to the child's age, ability, and aptitude. As part of this process, we may use automated tools to assist in identifying whether parts of the submission may have been generated using artificial intelligence (AI). This is not a judgment on the quality or validity of the education itself, but a means of ensuring transparency and understanding of the materials provided.

Why do we use AI detection tools?

- To better understand the origin and nature of submitted materials.
- To ensure that the evidence reflects the child's own learning and engagement.
- To support fair and consistent assessments across all submissions.

What this means for you

Your submission may be scanned using AI detection software. The results of this scan will be considered alongside all other information provided. You are welcome to include a brief explanation of how AI tools may have been used in your child's learning, if applicable.

Data Protection and Privacy

This process complies with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. No decisions will be made solely on the basis of automated analysis. All assessments are reviewed by a qualified officer.

Please use this link to submit your information when requested to:

[Submit your demonstration of learning | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

What if I decide to stop EHE, or the Local Authority cannot be satisfied of suitability, or the college course is withdrawn?

Many schools across Nottinghamshire are oversubscribed. Once a child is removed from school roll there will be no guarantee that they can return if a school place is required. If a return to school is needed, it is usual for a child to return to the last school attended, however, schools that are oversubscribed or have allocated places from their waiting list will not usually be in a position to readmit students who have left to be recorded as EHE. Parents always retain the right to apply for their child to return to any mainstream school whilst they are of statutory school age.

If your child loses their college place, you may be informed that a return to school is required, and you may be referred to other agencies.

For additional information please see our website:

[Elective home education | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

Contact information

Elective Home Education Team

Email: ehe@nottscc.gov.uk

Tel: 0300 500 8080

Nottinghamshire County Council is committed to protecting your privacy and ensuring all personal information is kept confidential and safe. For more details see our general and service specific privacy notices at: [Privacy Statement | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)