

Northamptonshire County Council

Parents and Carers via email

Please ask for: Chris Wickens Email: <u>cwickens@northamptonshire.gov.uk</u> Date: 16/09/2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **REF: Decision to Electively Home Educate (EHE)**

Since the beginning of the new academic year, Northamptonshire County Council has seen a significant increase in the number of parents removing their children from school and stating they wish to Electively Home Educate.

Northamptonshire County Council would strongly recommend that all parents and carers consider this decision very carefully and this correspondence is designed to provide further information with regards to the process to allow any parent or carer considering Elective Home Education for their child(ren) to make a fully informed decision on the matter.

- Once you have confirmed in writing to your child's school that you wish to Electively Home Educate them, the school can remove your child's name from their school roll and your child will no longer have a place at that school.
- The School Admissions Code, which governs all admissions to school in England dictates that when a school has spaces available, those places must be allocated should anyone apply for a place at the school.
- Northamptonshire County Council is legally obliged to fill any and all spaces that may become available in all schools in the county, this includes those places that have become available as a result of parents stating they wish to Electively Home Educate.
- Northamptonshire County Council receives over 10,000 'In Year' applications annually and surplus capacity, particularly in secondary schools in the county, is limited in most areas.

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w. www.northamptonshire.gov.uk



- Should you make the decision to Electively Home Educate your child(ren) and then wish to return to a school at a later date, <u>there is no guarantee that you will be</u> <u>successful in securing a place at the school your child previously attended.</u>
- Should you make the decision to Electively Home Educate your child(ren) and remove them from an oversubscribed school in the county, <u>it is highly unlikely</u> <u>that you will be successful in securing a place at the same school at a later</u> <u>date.</u>

Whilst Northamptonshire County Council fully understands the distress and anxiety that the ongoing Covid situation may be causing families and is appreciative of why parents and carers would be considering this course of action, it would strongly urge all parents to consider the contents of this letter carefully, prior to making any decision to Electively Home Educate your child(ren).

For more information about Elective Home Education please visit our website: <u>https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/Pages/home-education.aspx</u>

Yours sincerely

Chris Wickens Head of School Place Planning & School Admissions Northamptonshire County Council