

## **Elective Home Education (EHE) Case Studies - ACE team**

### **Case study 1**

The ACE team received notification from a colleague in the NHS that they had met a family who appeared to be home educating their children. Checks indicated that the children were not known to education services and home education appeared to have been in place for some time. The Children Missing Education (CME) Fieldworker undertook routine enquiries and eventually received confirmation from the parent that the children were indeed being home educated. The family attended an EHE Family event organised by the ACE team and ACE team members were able to make face-to-face contact with the family. The mother was subsequently happy to meet with the CME Fieldworker and to discuss her reasons for home educating her children. When the Home Education Adviser (HEA) visited the family, the children enjoyed talking about their activities, and remembered with excitement the animals they had seen at the Family Event; the EHE provision was deemed to be satisfactory.

### **Case study 2**

Colleagues in School Admissions notified the ACE team that some parents had confirmed their intention to home educate their child. Although the parent submitted a programme of work and activities, they were emphatic that they would not meet with the Home Education Adviser (HEA), quoting various legislation to support their stance. There was a number of further communications between the parent and members of the ACE team, culminating in the Local Authority initiating School Attendance Order proceedings and the parent stating there would be a formal complaint. Subsequently the parent agreed to meet with the HEA and when the meeting took place, a useful dialogue took place about the processes that the ACE team has put in place and the reasons for them. The child and her work were seen and the parent agreed that a further meeting could take place. At the follow up meeting, the child was happy to show off their latest work. The work was of good quality and education provision was deemed satisfactory, negating the need for further legal action.

### **Case study 3**

A family well known to social care colleagues with a Child Protection plan in place notified the school of their intention to EHE their daughter. ACE were notified and cross checked with social care colleagues to ensure they were aware of the family's intent and potential increased vulnerabilities. The EHE provision was found to be 'unsatisfactory' despite advice and support offered by the HEA. It was agreed at conference that School Attendance Order proceedings be initiated which they were but could not be concluded as the child reached statutory school leaving age.

### **Case study 4**

The LA were notified by school that a mother had opted for home education. Teaching staff were concerned that the mother did not have the resources to provide a suitable education. Mother refused to engage with professionals and at one point Housing, Social Services and the police were involved. The Children Missing Education (CME) Fieldworker and the HEA wrote letters and visited two properties to try and ascertain the child's whereabouts. After School Attendance Orders were initiated, mother agreed to meet with the HEA in a local park but turned up without the child and was aggressive. A further meeting was arranged, and reasons as to why it was necessary to see the child and their work were explained. Another meeting in the park was arranged, mother and child were there, with comprehensive examples of work in different subjects. The child spoke about their hobbies and their bike rides. Later appointments were kept by the family and education provision was deemed satisfactory.