

2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

29 November 2022

Our ref: 8695456

Thank you for your request received on 21 November 2022, for the following information:

**Please can you provide your current policies and procedures as of November 22 about the following:**

**Your current policy on children that are electively home educated, and your current procedures including any template letters used in relation to how you make initial contact with a new home education family, and how you make the decision in relation to if a child's home education received is suitable or not.**

**Your current policy on EOTAS and current procedure for families to access EOTAS were appropriate for their child.**

**Your current policy and procedure on personal budgets concerning education provision detailed in EHCPs.**

**Your current policy and procedures in relation to children missing education.**

We have processed this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

## **Response**

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below.

***Please can you provide your current policies and procedures as of November 22 about the following:***

***Your current policy on children that are electively home educated, and your current procedures including any template letters used in relation to how you make initial contact with a new home education family, and how you make the decision in relation to if a child's home education received is suitable or not.***

The EHE policy can be found on the Council website [Home Education | Barnet Council](#) we make initial contact with families using different forms of communication based on the family preference. A decision made on the suitability of a home education programme is based on a number of contributory factors in addition to being full-time; efficient and suitable to the child's age, ability and aptitude and any special educational needs they may have.

***Your current policy on EOTAS and current procedure for families to access EOTAS were appropriate for their child.***

There is no policy in relation to Alternative Provisions currently and we hope to be publishing guidance on this in the future. For children registered at a school, the school will have their own policies in relation to using Alternative Provisions and the management of this. Children who are electively home educated and wanting to access an Alternative provision, will have this organised through the parent as it is their sole responsibility to provide the education programme.

***Your current policy and procedure on personal budgets concerning education provision detailed in EHCPs.***

Our policy concerning personal budgets can be found on the Barnet Local Offer webpage:

[Barnet Local Offer: Home / Info and Advice / Money Matters / Personal budgets](#)

In terms of processes, we adhere to the Children and Families Act 2014, SEND regulations and SEND (Personal Budget) Regulations.

***Your current policy and procedures in relation to children missing education.***

BELS follows the procedures set out in the Department for Education's: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities as well as the processes found in the Education Act 1996. We do not hold our own policy as we follow the legislation and statutory guidance.

**Further information**

If you are interested in the data that the council holds you may wish to visit Open Barnet, the council's data portal. This brings together all our published datasets and other information of interest on one searchable database for anyone, anywhere to access. <http://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

**Advice and Assistance : Direct Marketing**

If you are a company that intends to use the names and contact details of council officers (or other officers) provided in this response for direct marketing, you need to be registered with the Information Commissioner to process personal data for this purpose. You must also check that the individual (whom you wish to contact for direct marketing purposes) is not registered with one of the Preference Services to prevent Direct Marketing. If they are you must adhere to this preference.

You must also ensure you comply with the Privacy Electronic and Communications Regulations (PECR). For more information follow this Link [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

**For the avoidance of doubt the provision of council (and other) officer names and contact details under FOI does not give consent to receive direct marketing via any media and expressly does not constitute a 'soft opt-in' under PECR.**

## **Your rights**

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review within the next 40 working days by writing to the Information Management Team at: [foi@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:foi@barnet.gov.uk). Or by post to Records & Information Management Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

If, having exhausted our review procedure, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you will have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone: 0303 123 1113; website [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)). There is no charge for making an appeal.