

DfES : ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION GUIDELINES FOR
LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITIES

DfES
Elective Home Education Guidelines for
Local Education Authorities

PAT offers the following response to the Consultation on Elective Home Education Guidelines for Local Education Authorities.

At our last Conference in July 2004, a motion was supported which stated "Conference believes that the Government should consider upgrading procedures for monitoring children education at home by parental preference as a matter of urgency".

We consider that the draft Guidelines do upgrade procedures but offer the following specific comments for consideration:-

- 1.4 Add - Parents who want a closer relationship with their children. This is a positive reason for Home Education - most of the reasons given are negative.
- 2.5 LEAs should have a requirement to provide information for parents / guardians and this should be stated via Part 3 - Clear policies and procedures.
- 2.8 As parents have the right to refuse a home visit, it must be clearly stated that samples of work can be shown or sent and various mechanisms should be suggested within the LEA policy.
- 3.18 When an LEA decides on the frequency of contact attention should be paid to preparation for external exams and appropriate support and advice provided. What is the level of compulsion to enter external exams?
- 3.4/ With Education / Nursery provision becoming increasingly popular from birth 3.5 the commencement of Registration could be more clearly stated. What is the requirement for children who have never been registered? How can the LEA fulfil its responsibility unless it is aware of all children?