



EHE Newsletter

May 2026

Whether you're just starting your home education journey or have been navigating it for a while, we'd like to thank all families who continue to engage positively with our team. Our aim is to support you in providing a suitable and enriching education for your child at home – acknowledging the time, care and commitment you give to your child's learning.

Support & Resources

EHE can be both rewarding and challenging - we're here to help you access useful tools and support.

Learning Resources

- **BBC Bitesize** – free lessons/revision materials for all key stages: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
- **Oak National Academy** – online lessons and curriculum support: www.thenational.academy
- **Local Learning Opportunities** – opportunities at our libraries / museum / heritage sites



Preparing for adulthood

Preparation for adulthood looks different for every young person. For home-educated children, it often develops naturally through everyday life, interests, and real-world experiences.

Families can really support this by:

- ❖ Developing practical life skills
- ❖ Building confidence and independence
- ❖ Exploring interests / strengths / future options
- ❖ Gently talking about next steps after 16 and making sure this is done over time – not just rushed at the end of compulsory school age.

There's no set timeline or single pathway. What matters most is supporting young people to grow into adults in ways that suit them and their families.

UK Prevent

- There's been a lot in the media recently about terrorism and antisemitism. Children may hear about these issues through news reports, social media, or online content – sometimes in ways that can be confusing or worrying.
- 'Prevent' is a safeguarding strategy and applies to all children including those in receipt of EHE – its purpose is to offer early support and guidance where there are concerns about exposure to extremist or hateful ideas.
- Radicalism appears in many forms: the use of stereotypes, misinformation, hostility and conspiracy theories. Families play a vital role in helping children to think critically, question, and to have open and safe conversations.
- Prevent is about support, not blame. Advice is available if families have concerns – discussing these issues calmly helps children to feel informed and supported. For more information, please see [Welcome to a safer Derbyshire](#)

Opportunities

As a Local Authority, we can't recommend any private events/workshops – but do acknowledge specific suggestions from EHE families, such as:

Volunteering in a children's hospice

- Programmes offering meaningful personal development and community contribution.
- Contact the hospice directly via email/phone to express interest and check age requirements.
- Derbyshire has several hospices – Sheffield also has Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice.



Healthier Futures programme

Run by the Live Life Better Derbyshire service, this supports parents and carers of children aged up to the age of 12. The programme is ideal for families who may benefit from extra support to improve health and wellbeing by exploring topics such as:

- ✓ building parenting confidence
- ✓ healthy meals and snacks
- ✓ creating calmer mealtimes
- ✓ conversations about positive body image
- ✓ childhood healthy weight support
- ✓ moving more as a family
- ✓ improving sleep
- ✓ creating healthy routines
- ✓ how to help with fussy eating

You can [Find out more about Healthier Futures](#) or simply [sign up to book a chat](#)

healthier futures

FREE Family Services for Healthier Living

FAQ & Guidance

Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026

We understand that hearing about new legislation can feel unsettling, particularly for families who have thought long and hard about choosing to educate their children at home. We want to reassure you that there are no immediate changes for families who provide EHE:

- You do not need to do anything at this time.
- EHE remains a lawful and valued choice.
- The EHE parts of the Act are not yet in force.
- Current EHE arrangements remain unchanged.

Any amendments will only take place after further regulations, and when clear statutory guidance is introduced. Derbyshire families will be informed well in advance and supported during any changes. We recognise the commitment, dedication and care from home-educating families – rest assured that we're committed to working respectfully and openly with families. We'll continue to share clear timely information as it becomes available; you will receive a letter from the Department for Education shortly in a separate email.

Learning Spotlight

We want to shine a light on the amazing learning journeys happening across Derbyshire's home educating community. This time we're publishing a delightful poem shared by a young EHE learner, inspired by one of her spring walks:

*There's grass growing on the ground,
bees buzzing in the air.*

*There is blossom in my buttonhole
and feathers in my hair,
and flowers, flowers, flowers,
absolutely everywhere!*



Want to be featured? We'd love to showcase your child's project, creative work, or learning journey in future newsletters. If you'd like to share something, please do email us at cs.ehe@derbyshire.gov.uk

Learning Tips - create a learning journal: Keeping a simple scrapbook of your child's learning can be a great way to reflect, celebrate progress, and build confidence. It doesn't need to be formal – photos, drawings and notes can work wonderfully.

Families have also found this 'Weekly Challenge' a great way to motivate some of their children:

Home Education Weekly Challenge	
Earn Points Every Day!	
Reading & Writing	Active & Outdoors
♥ Read for 20 mins - 8 pts	👟 Go for a walk or run - 10 pts
✍ Write a story - 8 pts	🚲 Ride your bike/scooter - 10 pts
📖 Keep a journal - 5 pts	🌳 Play in the garden - 8 pts
📖 Learn a new word - 5 pts	🏋️ Do 15 mins exercise - 10 pts
🗣 Read aloud to someone - 6 pts	🎵 Dance to a song - 6 pts
Creative & Hands-On	Brain Boosters
🎨 Draw or paint something - 10 pts	🧮 Complete a math challenge - 10 pts
🛠 Do a craft project - 10 pts	🧪 Do a science experiment - 15 pts
🍳 Bake or cook something - 12 pts	🎮 Play an educational game - 8 pts
🧱 Build with LEGO/blocks - 8 pts	🧩 Solve a puzzle - 8 pts
📄 Make a collage - 8 pts	💻 Learn something new online - 10 pts
Life Skills & Mindfulness	
🧹 Help with chores - 5 pts	🍽 Set the table or clean up - 5 pts
🧘 Practice yoga or mindfulness - 5 pts	🧘 Practice yoga or mindfulness - 5 pts
🧘 Meditate or relax - 5 pts	🐾 Take care of a pet - 5 pts
Bonus / Fun Tasks!	
♥ Random act of kindness - 10 pts	🎸 Learn a song or instrument - 8 pts
📄 Make a 'thank you' card - 6 pts	💡 Teach someone something new - 8 pts
★ Add up your points for the week & comment your total!	

