



Elective Home Education (EHE)

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INTRODUCTION

Elective Home Education (EHE) is where a parent elects to take personal responsibility for their child's educational provision, including both planning and delivering an educational programme. This is often referred to as "Elective Home Education" or "education otherwise" as in Section 7 of the 1996 Education Act.

The primary duty to educate a child rests with parents and for most children this means that they will normally go to school, but for various reasons some parents decide to undertake the responsibility of educating their children outside the school system.

It is important for you to think about why you are considering Elective Home Education. Effective home education requires commitment along with patience and perseverance and your decision could have major implications on your child's future.

Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) recognises and respects the right of parents/carers to educate their children at home and is committed to working with parents/carers.

Our aim is to ensure that families are aware of the services that are available locally and that you know how to access them. There are a number of parents who want an alternative to school and the Local Authority (LA) endeavours to ensure that your child has the best possible opportunity for learning and support during their period of elective home education. Pembrokeshire Local Authority will seek to work cooperatively with elective home educating parents to encourage communication networks and supportive working within and between the local EHE groups and individuals;

At times you may need support in understanding your role, and we may need to give you the opportunity to present evidence of your child's learning experience to demonstrate your child's continuing educational progress.

The authority will regularly review all of its practices and procedures in relation to elective home education to ensure practice is regularly reviewed and will consult with elective home educating parents to develop relationships and meet the needs of parents and children.

This booklet is designed to help parents/carers who are considering educating their child(ren) at home.

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Section 7 of Education Act 1996 gives parents the right to educate their children at home:

'The parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him to receive efficient full-time education suitable

- a) To his age, ability and aptitude and
 - b) To any special educational needs he may have.
- either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.

There is no legislation which compels parents to inform the LA that they are home educating their children. Therefore, children who have never attended school, or have moved into the county from another authority, will be unknown to their LA unless the parent has chosen to contact the authority or a third party has informed the authority.

However, Sections 437 to 443 of the Education Act 1996 place a duty upon local education authorities to take certain actions if it appears that a child is not being properly educated.

"If it appears to a local education authority that a child of compulsory school age in their area is not receiving suitable education, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise, they shall serve a notice in writing on the parents requiring him to satisfy them within the period specified in the notice that the child is receiving such education". (s437 (1))

The local authority's legal duty is concerned solely with children who appear not to be receiving suitable education. Beyond this, nothing in the Act requires a local authority to carry out regular monitoring of provision where a child is receiving education otherwise than at school.

If after reasonable enquiries, it has not been possible to satisfy the authority that an efficient, suitable and full-time education is being provided, the LA may serve a School Attendance Order which instructs the parent/carer to admit their child to a named school. If a parent fails to comply with the School Attendance order she/he is guilty of an offence under section 443 (1) of the Education Act 1996, unless it is subsequently proven that the child was, in fact, receiving a suitable education otherwise than at school.

If the child is registered at school and subsequently does not attend regularly, the LA may prosecute the parent under section 444.1 or 444.1(a) for failing to ensure that a registered pupil attends school regularly.

SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE

Is your child reluctant to attend school?

There could be many reasons why your child has become unhappy in school, e.g. problems with other pupils, bullying, difficulties with a particular subject or teacher, fear of failure, struggling in a Welsh language school etc. It would be useful to discuss these matters with the Head Teacher, Head of Year or an officer from the local authority before you consider withdrawing your child from school as, quite often, problems that appear impossible to overcome can be quickly and easily resolved.

Many non-Welsh speaking families move into Pembrokeshire and children absorb the language easier than their parents. Welsh is a compulsory subject that is taught at many different levels, but, if you are particularly worried that it is causing a problem you should speak to the school to see if extra support can be provided.

Every school in Pembrokeshire has an anti-bullying policy which outlines how the school can resolve issues. Speak to the school about the problem as bullying is not tolerated in our schools; the Head teacher will be keen to listen to you.

If your child is in year 10 or 11 she/he may have become disaffected with the school curriculum. In this case, you can meet with the school to discuss alternative provision or additions/amendments to the curriculum.

Have you made a complaint to the school which has not been resolved to your satisfaction or are you unhappy with something at the school?

If you are considering Elective Home Education because of a disagreement with members of school staff, governors or because of any other concern with a school, please discuss these with the Head teacher, or contact the Education Department at County Hall, Haverfordwest for help and advice.

If this does not resolve the problem you should make a written complaint to the chairperson of the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors meets regularly to discuss many matters; they will endeavour to give a satisfactory response to your complaint.

I have decided I want to home educate my child, what should I do?

The Education Act 1996, Section 7, states that it is the parents' responsibility to ensure that their child receives a suitable education "either by attendance at school or otherwise.

You need to inform the headteacher in writing if your child is a registered pupil, that you intend to home educate your child and that you want his/her name removed from the school roll. The school will forward a copy of your letter to the LA, however it would be useful if you could send a copy of your letter to the manager responsible for Elective Home Education.

The local authority will send you a letter acknowledging your decision and advise you that an Elective Home Education Advisor will contact you to offer a visit or meeting to discuss provision and offer any advice/information. Your child is invited to attend if you wish. You are under no obligation to accept this offer, but we would like to encourage you to do so, to enable us to work in partnership towards the best educational interests of your child.

This can help provide you with information or support and would enable the authority to fulfil its duty. Any visits or meetings held with you would be followed up by a report with recommendations made if necessary. Any future contacts/ visits/meetings would be agreed with you at this time.

If your child remains on a school roll but does not attend and no letter has been received from you, the school and a Local Authority Inclusion Officer will follow up that non-attendance.

Do I have to be a qualified teacher?

You do not need to have any qualifications, you simply need the time and desire to help your child to learn, along with commitment and resourcefulness. You do not need to do all the 'teaching' yourself; you can get help from friends and family or employ tutors but it is your responsibility to ensure that an efficient programme of work is provided. You can use suitable friends or pay for specialist teaching. However it is your responsibility to ensure that any tutors/teachers are suitable to teach your child (ren). It would be advised that you ensure they have a current DBS check. You are also advised to remain at home when a tutor is teaching your child.

The National Curriculum only applies to children in school. Some parents use the National Curriculum as a guide as it may provide you with a useful framework for levels of achievement across the subjects. It may also help if your child returns to school in the future.

However, there are no compulsory subjects. It would, be wise to develop literacy and numeracy skills as these will enable your child to better understand all other subject areas. Some families choose to have a structured timetable; however, Elective Home Education allows for flexibility and learning can take place at anytime and anywhere.

Currently, the National Curriculum subjects include English, Mathematics and Science as core subjects, with Technology, History, Geography, Art, Music, Physical Education, Welsh, Modern Foreign Language (from age 11) and Religious Education (unless parents exercise their right to withdraw a child).

Many of the commercially produced workbooks available from bookshops now relate their content to the National Curriculum. The internet also provides a wealth of information and resources to assist you.

Some things you may want to consider are:

- Is the best choice for my child and are they positive about the decision?
- You are convinced it is the best course of action for your child
- What you intend to do with your child(ren) before making a decision
- your child(ren) may miss the social side of school, group work, sports activities, friendships. You may want to consider how your child(ren) will have access to social activities.
- the financial implications such as books, resources, educational visits, tutors, exams etc.
- You have the time to devote to your child's education and you feel confident to teach your child effectively
- There are opportunities for independent study and possible quiet study areas

- There are opportunities for physical exercise
- You have some support available
- Social experiences with other children are available, as your child may miss the social side of school, friendships etc.

Does your child have Special Educational Needs?

Parents' right to educate their child at home applies equally where that child has special educational needs (SEN).

Where a child has a statement of SEN and is educated at home by the parents the statement does not automatically cease. While the statement is maintained it must be reviewed annually, following the procedures set out in Chapter 9 of the SEN Code of Practice for Wales. In many circumstances the child's SEN identified in the statement will have been related to the school setting and the child's needs may be readily met at home by the parents without LA supervision. It may be appropriate, once it is established that a child's special needs are being met without any additional support from the LA to give consideration to ceasing the statement, if the parents agree. This may be done at the annual review or at any other time.

If the parents' arrangements are suitable, then the LA is relieved of its duty to arrange the provision specified in the statement. If, however, the parents' arrangements for the education of their child at home fall short of meeting the child's needs, then the parents are not making suitable arrangements and the LA are not absolved of their responsibility to arrange the provision in the statement. In some cases a combination of provision by parents and the LA may best meet the child's needs.

In terms of home educated children Section 324(4A) of the Education Act 1996 does not require the name of a school to be provided in Part 4 of the statement. There should be discussion between the authority and the parents and, rather than the name of the school, Part 4 of the statement should mention the type of school the LA consider appropriate but go on to say that: "parents have made their own arrangements under Section 7 of the Education Act 1996". The statement can also specify any provision that the LA have agreed to make under Section 319 to help parents provide suitable education for their child at home.

If you find it difficult to put your views across in a meeting you can request advice and support from SNAP (Special Needs Advisory Project). You can contact SNAP on 01437 768097 or SNAP Cymru – Pembrokeshire, County Court Buildings, Hawthorn Rise, Haverfordwest, SA61 2AX

Do I have to work school hours?

Full time does not mean necessarily working school hours although some parents may wish to provide education in a more formal and structured manner. Other parents may decide to make more informal provision that is responsive to the needs

of their child/ren. The Elective Home Education advisor can offer some general advice and suggestions about resources, methods and materials if required.

How should I organise the teaching and learning?

There is no one approach or style that can be recommended but it may be reasonable to include:

- Development of numeracy and literacy skills suitable to your child's age and ability
- Opportunities for your child to be stimulated by his/her learning experiences
- A broad spectrum of activities to cater for wide varieties of interests
- Access to resources and materials
- The opportunity to interact with other children and adults.
- IT opportunities and access.

Can the local authority/school help me to home-educate?

The local authority /school does not provide any individual funding once a child has been deregistered from school. The local authority does have a role is to take certain actions should it appear that a child is not being properly educated. The LA keeps a database of home educated children and an Elective Home Education Advisor will offer visits to give advice/support about educational provision at the outset and again in the future if you continue to home educate.

The Local Authority seeks to work co-operatively with parents to develop mutual understanding and trust that will safeguard children's educational outcomes.

The Elective Home Education Advisor would like to visit/meet you annually and will always provide a report, which will be sent to you following his/her visit. Some parents prefer to write a report or provide work samples. If you or the Advisor feel there are any areas of the educational provision that need attention he/she will discuss this with you and may offer advice and suggestions. He/She would offer to re-visit with a view to helping improve your child's provision.

There are other organisations and support groups that can offer assistance and a list of useful contacts are provided later in this booklet.

Can I change my mind?

You can seek a place in a school at any time and inform the Admissions department of the Local Authority of your intention to enrol your child at a school. Normal Local Authority Admissions procedures will apply. These can be found in the School Information document published annually by the County Council.

What happens if the LA has concerns about the provision?

Every effort will be made to resolve issues about provision through discussion before any formal proceedings are initiated. If there are doubts as to whether provision is adequate the local authority may choose to investigate further. If discussion fails you will receive a letter from outlining the concerns and reasons for concluding that the provision is unsuitable. It may be necessary for the local authority to serve you with a School Attendance Order, which allows you 15 days to provide the Authority with evidence of suitable education. If at any time, concerns are raised regarding the safety or welfare of your child(ren), a referral may also be considered in line with the All Wales Child Protection procedures.

THE PROCESS

1. The authority will seek to work co-operatively with you to ensure that communication is constructive and encourages a relationship of trust. Once you have indicated an interest in providing elective home education for your child/ren, the Headteacher or Inclusion Officer will provide you with this guidance outlining the responsibilities of choosing elective home education for your child/ren. You may be advised to keep the child/ren in school whilst they are making a decision to home educate.
2. You will be requested to inform the headteacher in writing. The headteacher will inform the Elective Home Education manager in the local authority and provide a copy of your letter. If you do not put this in writing your child will remain on the school roll and you may be liable to prosecution for non-school attendance. Upon receipt your written notification from the school, you will be sent a letter of acknowledgement from the Local Authority. The LA keeps a database of home educated children, which can be checked by the LA staff involved in a truancy sweep. This is to ensure that no further action is taken in respect of those electively home educated children that may become involved in the sweep.
3. An elective home education advisor will contact you to offer a visit or meeting within the first 3 months of the acknowledgment letter. You are under no obligation to accept this meeting but the local authority would encourage this, as we wish to work in partnership with you to achieve the best possible educational outcomes for your child/ren. The elective home education advisor will discuss your current educational provision, offer support and advice if required with regard to resources, information etc. You can contact the elective home education advisor if you require general advice/ guidance or information between visits.
4. If there are no concerns about the educational provision, you will be informed in writing and a copy of any report will be attached. The elective home education adviser will agree future contact with you as appropriate and may sometimes be accompanied by a colleague if required. Every effort will be made to resolve issues about provision if there are doubts that the provision is adequate before any formal proceedings are invoked. If it appears that you are not fulfilling your

legal duty, the local authority may consider that your child is not being properly educated and seek a School Attendance Order under Section 437 of the Education Act 1996.

5. If your child is of compulsory school age and registered at a special school, the school must inform the local authority before your child's name can be deleted from the school roll. If a child holds a Statement of Educational Needs the Authority remains under a duty to maintain the statement and review it annually, following the procedures in Chapter 9 of the SEN Code of Practice for Wales.
6. If you choose to provide part or all of the child's education by accessing further education college courses, the elective home education advisor would wish to maintain links with you and the college whilst the child is of statutory school age.
7. Local authorities have a duty under section 175(1) of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This is further reinforced by Section 11 of The Children Act 2004 which places a duty on key persons and bodies to make arrangements to ensure that in discharging their functions they have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. As with school educated children, safeguarding or child protection issues may arise in relation to home educated children. If any safeguarding or child protection concerns come to light in the course of engagement with children and families, these concerns will be referred to the appropriate services using established local referral protocols.

CONTACT WITH THE ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION SERVICE

The LA is committed to developing effective and positive relationships with home educating parents. The elective home education adviser will contact you within 3 months after the deregistration of your child/ren. He/she will offer a home visit or if preferred a meeting at a mutually agreed venue. Your child is invited to attend if they wish as it is helpful to ascertain your child's thoughts and feelings regarding his/her own education. Some parents find these meetings particularly useful at the outset to discuss their child's specific learning programme; however, we can arrange to meet you as and when the need arises or at your own request.

The aim of any meeting is to ascertain your approach to your child's education rather than looking at specific subject areas. Parents choose many methods to illustrate this; you may wish to show examples of completed work, journals or diaries that are kept to record activities, or any on-going projects being undertaken. You may wish to show examples of the resources or website activities that you are using or simply discuss how you are delivering your chosen curriculum; some like to adhere to timetables and text books, whilst others follow curriculums which are far more holistic. Following a meeting, the local authority will provide you with a brief written report which will summarise the discussion and record any advice which was suggested.

Some parents may choose not to meet and to provide work samples, a written report or have their educational provision endorsed by a third party.

The elective home education adviser will agree with you any future contact and provide you with a contact number should you wish to access any further support or advice.

TAKING EXAMS

Many elective home educators take GCSEs and A Levels as private candidates and do very well. Many achieve the highest grades and go on to universities in the UK and abroad

GCSEs or A Levels can be completed on line or through a local centre. As a private candidate you are responsible for all costs of study and sitting exams and you are responsible for finding and registering with an exam centre.

You don't have to be 16 to take your GCSE's these can be taken at any age. The cost to sit a GCSE or A Level can also vary. You will need to discuss this with your provider.

The website **Education Otherwise** also provides some useful information about taking exams.

http://www.educationotherwise.net/index.php?option=com_weblinks&view=category&id=47%3Alearning-and-exams&Itemid=71

For more information and support about taking exams the following websites provide useful information: www.home-education-exams.org.uk

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN)

Pembrokeshire occasionally have workshops and training events for professionals and parents and information in relation to children with ALN and these can be found on the Pembrokeshire County Council website or through your elective home education advisor.

In addition the following information websites are available:

Dyslexia

Wales Dyslexia offers advice and support to private individuals, third sector organisations, public bodies and private businesses. Their services include:

- a helpline available to individuals in Wales affected by dyslexia.
- Dyslexia screening and tutoring for all age groups, including children of primary and secondary school age and adults.
- Tutoring can also be arranged. We use qualified screeners and tutors who are members of the British Dyslexia Association

Website: <http://www.walesdyslexia.org.uk>
Freephone helpline: 0808 1800 110

Autism

The National Autistic Society Cymru is a UK based charity offering support for people with autism (including Asperger syndrome) and their families. The NAS Cymru website includes everything from the UK website about autism and provides information about services and activities in Wales.

Tel: (0)2920 629 312

E-mail: wales@nas.org.uk

Website: http://www.autism.org.uk/?nation=wales&sc_lang=en-GB

SNAP Cymru

SNAP Cymru is an all Wales children's charity that is available to everybody working with families, young people and professionals on issues regarding additional learning needs and disabilities. SNAP is free to families and offers impartial, accurate information and advice through an independent Family Support Scheme.

SNAP Cymru has a national helpline service. The Helpline team will provide free, impartial, confidential, accurate information, advice and support around any concerns you may have regarding you or your child's education and development. The national office will put you in contact with the local officer for Pembrokeshire.

Tel: 0845 120 37 30

E-mail: helpline@snapcymru.org

Website: www.snapcymru.org

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AND SERVICES

Although you have opted to home educate you will still be able to access a range of activities and services to support and enhance the educational experience you are providing. The following pages provide a brief overview about some of the services available locally. This is by no means an exhaustive list and there may well be other local services and groups in your area.

Further information can be found on the Pembrokeshire Family Information Service website

http://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/content.asp?nav=647,1424&parent_directory_id=646



FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE (FIS)

As well as high quality information to children, young people, parents, grandparents, carers and professionals throughout Pembrokeshire, we can also tell you about services that provide support to parents and

carers of children and young people aged 0 - 19 years to help them in their parenting role.

A wide range of information is available on services for children and young people 0-20 years of age. This includes information about

childcare, family support services, children and young people's activities, education and training and much, much more. Remember we are a free service!

By telephone, email, in writing or in person;

Cross Park,

Pembroke Dock SA72 6SW

Information Line: 01437 775700

Email: fis@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Open: Monday to Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

(A 24 hour answer phone facility is also available) .

LIBRARY SERVICE

Pembrokeshire Libraries provides book loan services and can be a useful resource for electively home educating parents. You can also borrow DVDs, historical information and there is free internet access in every library for up to one hour per day. Joining the library is free but parents will need to sign up for children under 18 years old. Some libraries have story time sessions for younger children. At your local library you can:

- Surf the internet
- Send and receive emails
- Use Office software packages (Word, Excel, Powerpoint)
- Scan pictures, images and text
- Use special software for the visually impaired
- View online resources including ebooks/magazines/reference books etc

To find out more about your local library services visit:

Website: <http://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/content.asp?nav=107,108>



PEMBROKESHIRE YOUTH

Pembrokeshire Youth provides experiences, opportunities, information, advice and personal support for all young people aged 11-25 years.

Programmes are delivered by full and part-time youth workers from dedicated youth centres and in community settings across the county, such as Community Learning Centres, schools and community/village halls. Youth centres have a range of programmes and activities and equipment including up to date computer suites called digi labs.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme is available to all children aged 14-24 yrs old. There are three levels of programme which can be followed. Once successfully completed they lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. The young people decide which route they would like to follow. You can do the DofE through the Youth Service, Scouts, Guides etc. For more information visit the DofE website - <http://www.dofe.org>. The Youth Service have a dedicated DofE member of staff for more information contact the Youth Service



The Youth Information Service is provided by specialist youth information workers through the mobile youth zone, website and newspaper.

Our mobile Youth Zone makes regular visits to schools, youth centres, rural locations and other community sites and events where young people are present. The mobile provides a youth friendly environment for young people to meet, discuss, get information, advice or just to have fun.

Visit our dedicated website for young people in Pembrokeshire at:- www.pembrokeshireyouthzone.co.uk



SPORT PEMBROKESHIRE

Sport Pembrokeshire employ an 'Active Young People' (AYP) Officer based in each secondary school in Pembrokeshire whose responsibility is to provide a programme of extracurricular sports and physical activity based upon pupil preference.

The AYP Officers also work closely with their feeder primary schools to increase the amount of extracurricular sporting opportunities available to pupils as well as improving the links between local schools and community sports clubs.

Home educated pupils are welcome to attend sessions coordinated by our AYP Team. Parents simply need to contact their local Officer to find out more about the opportunities available each term

Ysgol Bro Gwaun & STP; Dan Bellis; Daniel.bellis@pembrokeshire.gov.uk 07920 702044

Ysgol Dewi Sant; Amanda John; Amanda.john@pembrokeshire.gov.uk 07920 723447

Milford Haven School; Barry John; barry.john@pembrokeshire.gov.uk 07920 537198

Tasker Milward & Portfield ; Rominy Colville; Rominy.colville@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
07769 887884

Ysgol y Preseli; Elgan Vittle; Elgan.vittle@pembrokeshire.gov.uk 07920 537155

Greenhill & Pembroke; Wyndham Williams;

Wyndham.williams@pembrokeshire.gov.uk 07920 700759

Dragon Multi Skills & Sport' & 'Play to Learn' Resource cards are utilised by primary school teachers when delivering Foundation Phase and KS2 PE as well as extracurricular sport. The cards provide lots of practical ideas for physical development. Teaching staff around the county have been trained in the use of these resources there will be additional courses for new staff. Parents who home educate are welcome to attend future workshops.

LEISURE CENTRES

Leisure Centres often run courses for young people such as martial arts, street dance, gymnastics, lifesaving, fun football, and junior fit and active sessions. Play and Create sessions for younger children etc. Contact your local leisure Centre to find out what they have on offer. For details of your local leisure centre follow link below:

http://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/content.asp?nav=107,2004,2023&parent_directory_id=646



SWIMMING

'Go swimming for free' for children under 16. This entitles children to free during school holidays (times can vary at each pool). Please check your local swimming pool for times.

Leisure centres are located in Crymych, Fishguard, Haverfordwest, Milford Haven, Narberth, Pembroke and Tenby.



The **Purple Routes Play Project** is a BIG Lottery funded project providing free open access play opportunities for children and young people aged between five and 15. Sessions take place in Fishguard, Goodwick, Llandissilio, Maenclochog, St Dogmaels, Merlins Bridge, Angle, Neyland, Pennar, Tenby and Kilgetty. All children and young people are welcome. The sessions take place in their parks and open spaces. They are free to come and go, as it is not a childcare facility. Please see session timetables for the latest times of sessions.

For further information

www.purpleroutes.co.uk

Tel: 01646 683919

TECHNOCAMPS

Technocamps delivers workshops any groups of young people across Wales on programming, app development, games development, robotics and much more. The project is led by Swansea University, in partnership with Aberystwyth, Bangor and the University of South Wales, so their teams have been able to run workshops across the country within the convergence areas in Wales.

All the resources are freely accessible online giving young people the chance to continue to learn Computer Science at their own pace from home and school. Take a look at the brochure at their website, Facebook account or Twitter.

Contact your local Technocamps team should you have any queries on:

Technocamps Computer Science
College of Science Swansea University
Singleton Park
Swansea
SA2 8PP
Tel: 01792 606890
Email: info@technocamps.com
Twitter: [@Technocamps](https://twitter.com/Technocamps)
Facebook: [Technocamps](https://www.facebook.com/Technocamps)

CYCLING PROFICIENCY

The Safe Cycling Scheme is also accessible by children receiving elective home education. Instructors carry out the National Standards cycle training which includes learning about the Highway Code for young road users; learning about cycle maintenance, being conspicuous and the wearing of protective headgear. Normally cycle and road safety training is done in schools with specific year groups but if you have a group of children wanting to take part a bespoke group can be arranged through the local authority road safety department.

National Standards Awards Levels 1, 2 & 3 (Accredited):

- Level 1 : National Standards training, the trainees learn to control and master their bikes. The training takes place in an environment away from cars or traffic – usually in a playground.

- Level 2 : National standards training takes place on the road, giving trainees real cycling experience so that they are able to deal with traffic on short journeys.
- Level 3 : National Standards training delivered to secondary schools age young people and to adults (both on request), trainees will learn the skills to tackle a wider variety of traffic conditions than on Level 2. When trainees reach Level 3 standard they will be able to deal with all types of road conditions and more challenging traffic situations.

If you would like to arrange a group to take part in National Standards Awards Levels 1, 2 or 3 (Accredited) please contact the Road Safety Team on 01437 775144 or road.safety@pembrokeshire.gov.uk



CAREERS WALES WEST

Careers Wales West is a private company funded by the Welsh Assembly Government offering careers information, advice and guidance to people of all ages across the whole south-western quarter of Wales. It can provide information for young people about jobs, courses and training opportunities. It has a vacancy service for under 19's. For parents it can provide advice and information to help support your child with careers decisions. As a local authority we share information held on our home education database so that your child receives the same information and opportunities as other young people in Pembrokeshire unless specifically otherwise requested by a parent.

Offices are located at;

Pembroke Dock – 2A Meyrick Street, Pembroke Dock, SA72 6UT. (01646) 623510
 Milford Haven – Marine House, Nantucket Avenue, SA73 2BE (01646) 691940
 Haverfordwest – 31-33 High Street, Haverfordwest, SA61 2BW (01437) 772100
 Cardigan - (01239)
 622119



Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE)

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award can be undertaken by anyone aged 14 to 24. DofE programmes take between 1 year and 4 years to complete, You achieve your Award by completing a personal programme of activities in four sections (five if you're going for Gold) - Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and for Gold, a Residential.

There are three levels of programme which can be followed. Once successfully completed they lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. The young people decide

which route they would like to follow. You can do the DofE through the Youth Service, Scouts, Guides etc. For more information visit the DofE website - <http://www.dofe.org>

The Youth Service has a dedicated DofE member of staff for more information contact the Youth Service.

Contact your DofE coordinator at Pembrokeshire County Council.

SCHOOL COUNSELLING SERVICE

The School Counselling Service is a professional, confidential service available to all young people in Pembrokeshire aged 11 to 19. The service offers young people a regular space to talk and think about things that are important to them and operates in line with British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists (BACP) Ethical Framework.

The service is accessible to electively home educated young people of the same age range on an outreach basis.

For further information please phone: 07920 702413.

LEARNING PEMBROKESHIRE

Learning Pembrokeshire is one of the largest direct providers of Adult and Community Learning in Wales and courses are open to everyone aged 16 and over.

They aim to provide a wide range of courses to suit all our customers - Pembrokeshire residents and businesses. If you want to develop new skills and interests, work towards a qualification or enhance your career prospects, our courses provide the ideal local opportunity.

Courses are held at many different locations around the County, making it easier than ever to find a time and venue that suits you. We are also able to provide bespoke training for businesses; whether it be for one person or an entire organisation, we can tailor training to meet specific needs.

There are free part time courses in Essential Skills such as reading, writing and some basic IT with Learning Pembrokeshire, the County Council's adult learning service. Just ring the free phone number 0808 100 3302 to find out more.

Young people need to be 16 to count as an adult learner, the WG LLWR will accept the enrolment if it is after the 16th birthday and on occasions some young people under 16 can be accepted on courses. There is however no obligation either for the learner to attend or for the service to accept a learner.

YOUTH OUTREACH

The Outreach Team can support young people aged 14-25 who are not in education, employment or training...or maybe aren't happy with what they're currently doing. They can also:

- Provide information, advice or support
- Provide basic information on courses, looking for jobs or more complex issues in areas such as housing or benefits
- Assist with making Careers appointments & accompany young people to the initial appointments if required
- Attend a range of appointments or interviews with young people if required
- Provide support to write CVs, complete application forms or visit potential employers
- Attend College or training providers for a look round, meet tutors or the youth worker based in College
- Assist with developing independent living skills

Email: youthoutreach@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Facebook page Pembrokeshire Youth Outreach Team

Tel: 01437 776117/776118



MILFORD YOUTH MATTERS

Milford Youth Matters works with 14-25 year olds from Milford Haven and the surrounding areas. We currently offer a number of projects preparing young people to move closer to work. We currently offer the following projects;

Buddies Café - an eight week work experience placement based at Milford Youth Centre giving 16-25 year olds hands on experience of working in a small catering establishment. Participants are able to develop skills in food preparation, stock taking, customer service and cash handling.

Essential Skills - Free classes every Tuesday between 11-1pm - for anyone unemployed between the ages of 16 and 25. Young people can develop skills in literacy and numeracy gaining qualifications.

Drop in - Every Thursday from 1-5pm for 16-25 year olds. Drop in offers free internet access and support from Youth Workers to complete CV's, apply for jobs, support completing paper work etc.

MY Time - a Volunteering incentive scheme offered to young people aged 16-25 from Milford Haven. Young people have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of volunteering including path clean up, painting local parks, improving the local town, dog walking and beach clean ups. Once twenty hours of volunteering has been completed and verified by Youth Workers, participants will receive a £20.00 to

spend at local businesses that have signed up to the scheme.

Buddies café is open to the public and any young people who wish to come along for tea/coffee and a bite to eat are more than welcome at any time - opening hours for the café is Monday - Friday 9:30-4:00pm.

We will soon be launching our website - www.milfordyouthmatters.org.uk

Contact: Project Co-ordinator
Milford Youth Matters
Milford Youth Centre
Priory Road
Milford Haven
SA73 2EE

Tel: 01646 663137
Mobile: 07716842150

FISHGUARD AND GOODWICK YOUNG PERSON'S TRUST (POINT)

POINT aims to provide young people aged 11-25 years with a drop in centre open 6 days per week, 50 weeks per year in Fishguard to help young people acquire the self esteem, skills and self confidence to cope with the personal and social problems during the transition from childhood to adulthood, and to enable them to play a role in the community where they live". Their main aims are:

- To provide a drop-in service where young people can access non discriminatory, non judgemental, high quality support and information in a warm, safe and welcoming environment where they can enhance their life skills, develop their interests and socialise with their peers and positive role models.
- To empower young people to make decisions and explore options and opportunities. To develop a sense of place for themselves within their community, society and the local environment.
- To deliver accredited and vocational training in an informal setting and at a pace that suits each individual, particularly for those young people who struggle in a school environment.
- To inspire young people to take on the challenge of adventure activities with the aim of developing interests, enhancing confidence, self esteem and team skills.
- To represent the needs and views of young people within their community and to work in partnership with them to action ideas.

There is a new project 'POINT Means Jobs' which is a Big Lottery funded project based at the Printworks in Parc-y-shwt, Fishguard which will improve the employability skills of the young people of Fishguard & Goodwick as well as those of wider North Pembrokeshire.

The aim is to use the skills and experience of local businesses to give our members a taster of the many different jobs and industries that we have in North Pembrokeshire. These skills will be transferred via workshops and work placements & hopefully eventually lead to paid work.

Contact details:

Fishguard and Goodwick Young Person's Trust,
Popworks
Parc-y-Shwt
Fishguard
SA65 9AP
Tel: 01348 875467

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (CAB)

They aim to provide the advice people need for the problems they face and improve the policies and practices that affect people's lives.

We provide free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. We value diversity, promote equality and challenge discrimination.

Pembrokeshire (Haverfordwest) CAB
43 Cartlett
Haverfordwest
Pembrokeshire
SA61 2LH

Telephone: 0844 4772020

Email: advice@pembcab.org.uk

Website: www.citizensadvice.org.uk

PEMBROKESHIRE & CEREDIGION CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S ADVOCACY SERVICE – TROS GYNNAL

Sometimes children and young people need help to have their voices heard. They may want help voicing their opinions or getting their views heard about many different issues which affect them including. Tros Gynnal are an independent organisation providing eligible children and young people with advocacy support, information about their rights, support at meetings (for example with other professionals), and help with making complaints

Tel: 01545 571865

Young People's free phone: 0808 168 2599

Website: www.trosgynnal.org.uk



PEMBROKESHIRE ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY SERVICES (PAVS)

Young people between the ages of 14 -25 can register as a youth volunteer and can experience many different types of volunteering opportunities and enhance their skills, increase confidence and meet new people as well as gain accreditation or qualifications. Visit their website to find out more information:

Telephone: 01437 769422

Website: <http://www.pavs.org.uk/volunteering/youthvolunteering.htm>

Email: volunteering@pavs.org.uk

TEAM AROUND THE FAMILY (TAF)

Team Around the Family (TAF) is a support service for you and your family. It has been shown that it is best when families identify themselves the positive changes that they wish to make to family life. TAF will support families to make these changes. This can lead to more positive futures for their children.

TAF will:

- Work with your family to look at the changes you would like to make to improve family life.
- Agree an action plan, which sets out how you will achieve these changes and who will be responsible for each action.
- Help your family to feel more confident, so that you can maintain these changes in the future without needing their support.
- Tell you about other support services that may also help you work on your plan.
- Make you feel comfortable about using the service again if you have problems in the future.

Any professional can refer you to TAF (with your permission). Before they do this, they will talk to you about what changes you would like to make and what support you think you will need. You will need to sign a consent form for us to begin working with you. If or when you no longer need their support you can withdraw from the support at anytime.

Team Around the Family (TAF)
Flying Start Centre,
Cross Park, Pennar,
Pembroke Dock SA72 6SW
Tel: 01437 775700

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

HEALTH CHALLENGE PEMBROKESHIRE

Although we are living longer we are becoming unhealthier. A key objective for Health Challenge Pembrokeshire partners is to support people to be as healthy as possible.

- As part of the current strategy, particular priorities are:
- Reducing smoking
- Promoting responsible drinking of alcohol
- Promoting healthy eating
- Encouraging people to take more exercise
- Emotional health and mental well-being

You can find further information on all of these, as well as advice on drugs alcohol, sexual health and oral health via the link below:

http://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/content.asp?nav=1210,1943&parent_directory_id=646

SCHOOL NURSING SERVICE

Although your child(ren) are not attending a school they are still able to access the School Nursing Service. School Nurses are qualified nurses many with post registration additional training and qualifications, which relates to the health needs of children and young people. They have specific roles and have responsibility for providing care and other health input for - Individual School aged children, Families and School communities. They provide information on immunizations, sexual health and much more.

School nurses are available to offer advice on issues such as Bedwetting, soiling, dietary information, behavioural issues, puberty/sexual health information and emotional health.

They also participate in health education/promotion and can offer group sessions including: healthy eating, sun safety, smoking, personal hygiene and sex education.

To request the service telephone:
Child Health Department Tel: 01437 773850

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Your child may want to take part in some of the uniform groups which meet locally, this is good way for them to meet other children and young people, form friendships and to gain other skills and experience.

The girl guiding website provides information on Rainbows (5-7year olds), Brownies (7-10 year olds) and Girl Guides (10-14years olds). There is also a senior section for girls 14-26 years who can choose from a wide range of unique and exciting opportunities, including travel in the UK and around the world, volunteering with younger girls within Girlguiding as a Mentor or Leader, and working towards valuable qualifications.

Website: www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested

Phone: 0800 1 69 59 01

The Scouts website provides information on Beavers (6-8year olds), Cubs (8-10 year olds), Scouts (10-14 year olds) and Explorer Scouts (14-18 years olds).

Website: www.scouts.org.uk/join

Phone: 0845 300 1818

Also visit :

http://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/content.asp?SocietyCat=79&id=18696&nav=107,108,1887&parent_directory_id=646&language=&textonly

DRAMA AND DANCE



Stagecoach Theatre Arts - Haverfordwest

Singing, Dance and Drama for boys and girls aged 4-18

Sir Thomas Picton School,
Queensway,
Haverfordwest SA61 2NX
Tel: 0845 604 1422

West Wales Academy of Dance

From children's ballet to teen and adult hip hop, modern jazz or street dance we have something for everyone, from Baby Ballet at 2 years of age. Classes run in Milford Haven, Pembroke Dock, and Haverfordwest. Children are taught in a safe and secure environment all staff are CRB checked, Fully Qualified and Registered. West Wales Academy of Dance is a member of a global examination board in all styles of dance and drama, The United Kingdom Alliance and a corporate member of the British Dance Council.

Website: www.westwalesacademyofdance.co.uk

Tel: 07876 702810

Email: info@westwalesacademyofdance.co.uk

Narberth Youth Centre

Court House
Market Square
Narberth, Pems.
SA67 7AU

www.narberthyt.co.uk

07971 881539

Email: narberthyouththeatre@yahoo.co.uk

www.facebook.com/#!/narberthyt.co.uk

For budding young performers aged between 11 and 18 years of age. People with experience in fundraising, marketing, stage management and technical skills will also all be welcome. Not only will younger members of the community have a safe place to go of an evening, but also a place to have fun, experience and gain new skills, and have an opportunity to broaden their horizons through theatre.

TORCH YOUTH THEATRE

Junior Youth Theatre

The Junior Youth Theatre takes place at the Torch on Sundays during term time in the theatre's brand new rehearsal space 'The Junction'. It is split into 2 age brackets, 3-4yr olds and 5-6yr olds with 2 separate sessions.

During the term the children have the opportunity to learn new skills and make new friends by taking part in various drama games and acting exercises. These sessions are designed to raise young people's confidence through acting and role play and just so happen to be great fun!

Senior Youth Theatre

The Senior Youth Theatre takes place at the Torch on Tuesday evenings during term time in the theatre's brand new rehearsal space 'The Junction'. Our SYT programme is split into 3 age brackets, 7-8yr olds, 9-10yr olds and 11 -13yr olds with 3 separate sessions.

During the term SYT have the opportunity to develop different disciplines required for working in the arts. There is focus on improvisation, devising and different techniques used for character development. They also teach all the usual fun drama games and acting exercises which aim to develop confidence in young people. The SYT also have the opportunity to have 'one off' sessions lead by industry professionals and get the chance to perform a showcase production in the Theatre's Main House.

If you would like any further information regarding the Junior or Senior Youth Theatre please call: Tel: 01646 694192

Email education@torchtheatre.co.uk.

Website: www.torchtheatre.co.uk/torch-youth-theatre

YOUNG FARMERS CLUB

Young Farmers (YFC) is a rural youth organisation, for anyone aged between 10 and 26 years old. Clubs and County Federations are affiliated to Wales and the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (NFYFC),

Members enjoy socialising and interacting with people of the same age; learning; achieving and having fun. Despite the name, Clubs organise their own programme for their regular meetings, with activities including sports, crafts, skills development. With such a broad range, clubs ensure the interests of all members are catered for. Clubs' activities are complemented by those organised by Pembrokeshire County YFC activities, such as competitions, and social/fundraising events, you don't need to be a farmer to join!

Pembrokeshire YFC have a dozen clubs spread over the county from Eglwysrwrw in the north right down to South Pembs. Clubs offer amazing opportunities and boast the ability to be able to offer every young person an experience regardless of age or interest. Our clubs offer a diverse range of activities and club evenings from competitions, to club nights with police dogs, ice cream tasting, face painting, sausage making, and visits to watch rugby matches, film nights and a wealth of other opportunities. There is also a healthy social calendar with balls and opportunities to mix and make new friends from across the county.

Pembrokeshire YFC County Organiser
Agriculture House,
Winch Lane,
Haverfordwest,
SA61 1RW
Email: sir.benfro@yfc-wales.org.uk
Tel : – 01437762639 / 07970041117
Website: <http://pembrokeshireyfc.org.uk/>

URDD

The Urdd is an exciting, dynamic movement for children and young people. It organises a range of different activities across Wales. We have 16 development officers who work all over Wales to ensure that the Urdd offers a full programme of activities for children and young people.

The Urdd was established in 1922 to give children and young people the chance to learn and socialise through the medium of Welsh. It gives the young people of Wales the chance to live vibrant lives through the medium of Welsh, learning at the same time to respect each other and people around the world. The Urdd welcomes Welsh speakers and Welsh learners.

Canolfan yr Urdd Pentre Ifan
Felindre Farchog
Crymych

Sir Benfro
SA41 3XE

Ffôn 01239 820317

Ffacs 01239 820317

DyfedSion@urdd.org Website: www.urdd.org

INFORMATION WEBSITES

www.electivehomeeducationservice.co.uk - Tel: 0845 602 072

This website provides links to accessing information and resources that have proven valuable to parents either considering or actively engaged in the delivery of Elective Home Education.

www.educationotherwise.net - Tel: 0845 478 6345

This site provides information and resources for home educating families and those considering home education for the first time, including guidance on home education and the law, SEN and disabilities; downloadable fact sheets covering many aspects of HE; and links to local HE groups across the UK. If you are new to HE, you might like to start by reading their 'Frequently Asked Questions'.

<http://www.he-special.org.uk/>

This is the web site of the HE-Special-UK mailing list. We are a group of families who Home Educate children with Special Educational Needs and disabilities.

“Home Education” is the UK term for what may be better known as Homeschooling. Our children don't attend school, or in some cases may only attend school part time. If you are Home Educating a child with Special Educational Needs or disabilities, or if this is something that you are thinking about, then I'd like to invite you to join our email list. You will be very welcome.

<http://www.heas.org.uk/> - Tel: 01707 371854

HEAS is a national home education charity based in the United Kingdom. It is dedicated to the provision of advice and practical support for families who wish to educate their children at home in preference to sending them to school. HEAS offers information for home educators including advice about educational materials, resources, GCSE examinations, special educational needs, information technology, legal matters and curriculum design. HEAS produces a range of leaflets and the Home Education Handbook. In addition HEAS subscribers receive the quarterly HEAS Bulletin, access to the Advice Line, contacts with other subscribers and the HEAS registration card (for home educating families) which gives free or reduced rates of admission to certain museums and sites of interest.

www.home-education.org.uk

The website aims to provide support to people home educating or considering home educating in the UK, provides support for home educators in other countries by providing online information and resources to home educators.

It indicates that it provides online resources and accessible information for home educators in the UK and will respond to questions.

<http://edyourself.org/articles/EnglandandWales.php>

This website is the work of Fiona Nicholson. Fiona has given evidence to Government Committees on the subject of elective home education and can provide you with a clear up-to-date analysis of the key areas of elective home education practice and policy in England and Wales. There is a companion website dedicated to home education and special needs in England <http://www.ehe-sen.org.uk/>

<http://www.zoneseven.co.uk/>

We are a Registered Charity set up to Support, Inform and provide Educational activities to Home Educated children and their families. We are a Recognised Agored Cymru Centre and as such, we can offer opportunities to accredit learning to those over 11 years old. Based in Pontardulais.

<http://www.waleshomeeducation.co.uk/>

Wales Home Education is a sister site to New Foundations Home Education which is Cardiff's home education group and Elective Home Education Wales. This site aims to bring together free discounts, the law as it applies to Wales and support for families across Wales.

RESOURCE WEBSITES

www.edplace.com - Tel: 02071 839818

This is a small company dedicated to empowering parents in their child's education and providing education resources for parents. They cover English, Maths and Science across the National Curriculum in Key Stages 1 to 4 blending online tools with leading resources created by our teachers. Content is engaging and effective for children and up-to-date according to the Curriculum.

www.oxfordhomeschooling.co.uk

They indicate they have 18 years experience of helping individuals gain GCSEs, IGCSEs and A levels via home education. Several thousand individuals study with them every year and go on to gain qualifications. They place a great deal of emphasis on the support provided to our students and offers proactive tutor support.

All courses have been developed by experts in their field, and their team of home education course developers ensures that they are accessible, stimulating and effective in helping your child to learn.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/home_education/

This website provides educational games, activities, worksheets to help your child learn at home for 4-16yr olds, including history activities etc. Includes a blog for parents to get advice and share experiences.

<http://home-ed.info/heresources.htm>

These pages list a variety of educational resources which can be used for helping your children to learn at home including science and technology supplies for use in the home. List places to access resources and internet based sites to use. Gives advice on GCSE's for home educators.

www.parentsintouch.co.uk

This site is run by an ex headteacher who has taught in state and independent schools. Free worksheets provided on website, examples of almost 6000 worksheets available to subscribers. You have to register to download these. Many resources so please browse through the site to see more.

<http://www.skillsheets1.freeseve.co.uk/index.htm>

SKILLSHEETS are a series of 32 books of photocopiable worksheets designed to teach basic maths and English in a straightforward and understandable way. Used by teachers to improve the functional skills of adults and older teenagers. The worksheets are also available on disc. There is also online Maths tuition. SKILLSHEETS are used by private tutors and in mainstream settings.

<http://www.inclusiontrust.org.uk/>

Inclusion Trust holds a reputation for excellence in educational research. We have experience of delivering Alternative Provision for over 12 years, through our flagship project NotSchool. Notschool is an alternative to 'traditional' education. They use a personalised pedagogical approach to address individual learning needs. This includes those young people from challenging circumstances, who have exceptionally poor attendance, have disengaged themselves from Mainstream Education and are more at risk of becoming NEETs.

Qualified teachers offer effective feedback to guide learning and personal development within an online environment that is closely monitored to safeguard the young persons' welfare. This provision is tailored to develop literacy, numeracy and learning to learn strategies. They rigorously track engagement, progress and achievement, providing regular up-to-date information for schools and parents.

<http://www.interhigh.co.uk/> - Tel: 01874 731118

This website will introduce you to a new type of school. Founded in September 2005, InterHigh School offers a complete secondary school education on the internet. Lessons are delivered by teachers and the pupils logging into virtual classrooms.

You will find everything that you would expect to see in a traditional school but all located on the internet. InterHigh School accepts pupils throughout the academic year so complete and submit the Registration Form if you would like the opportunity to join InterHigh School.

<http://educationnow.gn.apc.org>

A non-profit making research, writing and publishing company, a co-operative devoted to developing more flexible forms of education and more educational diversity.

<http://jcgg.org.uk>

Joint Council for General Qualifications – Contact for the addresses of examining boards.

<http://www.nec.ac.uk>

National Extension College – Provides open learning through its correspondence college. Offers GCSE and A level course, tutors, handbooks, technical guides and practical guides.

<http://www.weshome.demon.co.uk>

World-Wide Education Service – Assists families with the education of primary-aged children.

<http://www.warwick-district.org.uk?flexi>

Information from Kate Oliver on flexi-schooling

<http://www.satellitesschool.org.uk>

Offers the Satellite School Education System – a range of courses delivered via the internet as a total package to meet the educational needs of those children who for a variety of reasons are not receiving full-time school education.

<http://www.educationotherwisewales>

Support direct from home educators within Wales.

HELPFUL WORK-BOOKS

Available from Amazon, W.H. Smiths, The Works and other book-shops:

CGP Course books

Letts Revision Books

Schofield & Sims Books

Collins Revision Books

Lonsdale Books

Help with Homework

COLLEGES

Coleg Ceredigion offers a broad general range of qualifications which will help in whichever career path you choose. Offers Pre-GCSE courses & GCSE courses from age 15years.

Tel: 01239 612032

Website: <http://www.ceredigion.ac.uk>

Pembrokeshire College, Haverfordwest .

Offers Bridging Courses; Post-16 Courses & a venue for sitting examination.

Tel: 01437 753000

Website: www.pembrokeshire.ac.uk

LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTACTS

Carolyn Waters (Advisor for Elective Home Education in Pembrokeshire)

Tel: 01437 776614 / 07717 348534

Cheryl Loughlin (Manager for Elective Home Education in Pembrokeshire)

Tel: 01437 776549