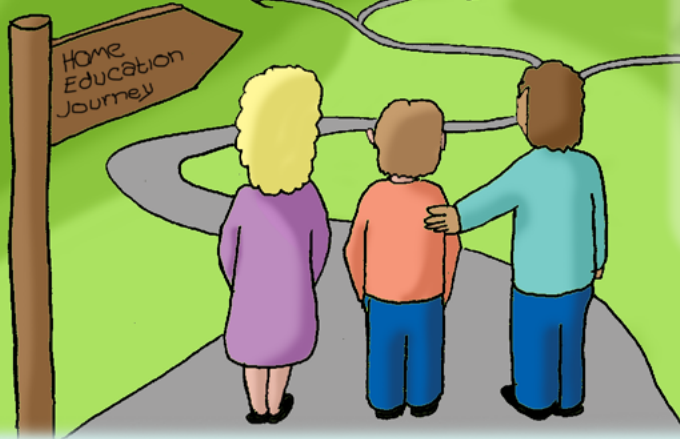


ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

A Roadmap for Young People

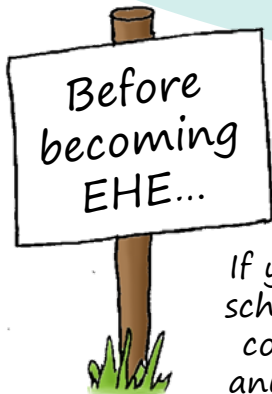
Elective Home Education (EHE) means that your parent or guardian takes full responsibility for your education.



Thinking about becoming elective home educated? Then this is the resource for you! It includes key information about your journey from school to becoming EHE and beyond.

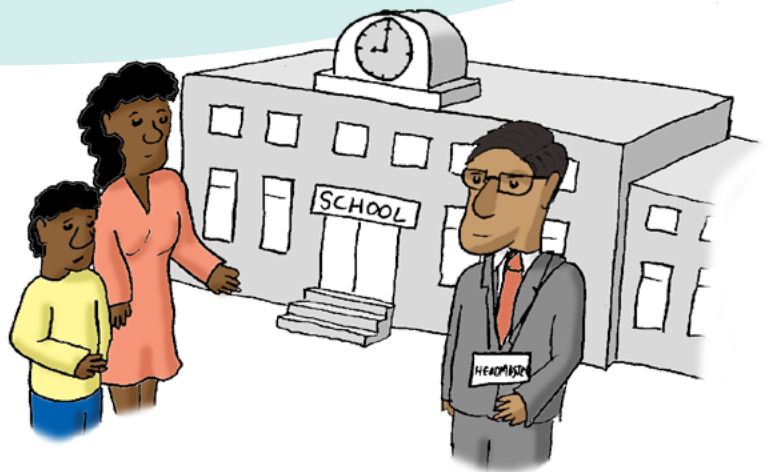
The government describes EHE as: "a choice by parents to provide education for their children at home or in some other way they desire, instead of sending them to school full-time." Visit the Government EHE guidance by clicking [here](#).

This resource has been created with young people, their families and services who work with EHE young people and their families.



Ask for help!

If you're starting to feel like school isn't working for you, consider whether there are any changes or adjustments that can be made by the school that might make a difference. Talk with your school and your parent/guardian – they can then ask for a meeting with the school to discuss your ideas, share concerns and help you agree your next steps.



You or your parent/guardian could ask the school to consider a referral to a specialist service for advice.

If your current school is not suitable, your parent/guardian can discuss what alternatives are available with the local authority.



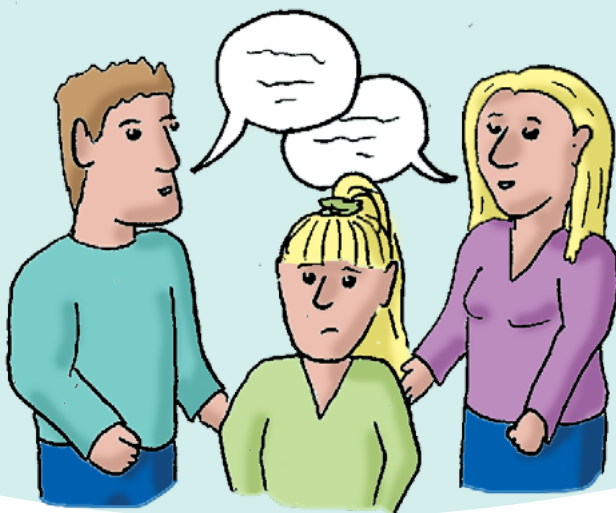
**Your education
your
choice!**



Schools should not put pressure on you or your parent/guardian to de-register you from school, even if you are at risk of exclusion or have poor attendance.

It's important that you are involved in the decision to become EHE. The United Nations

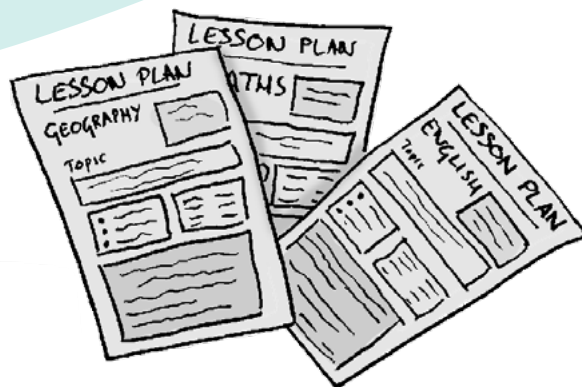
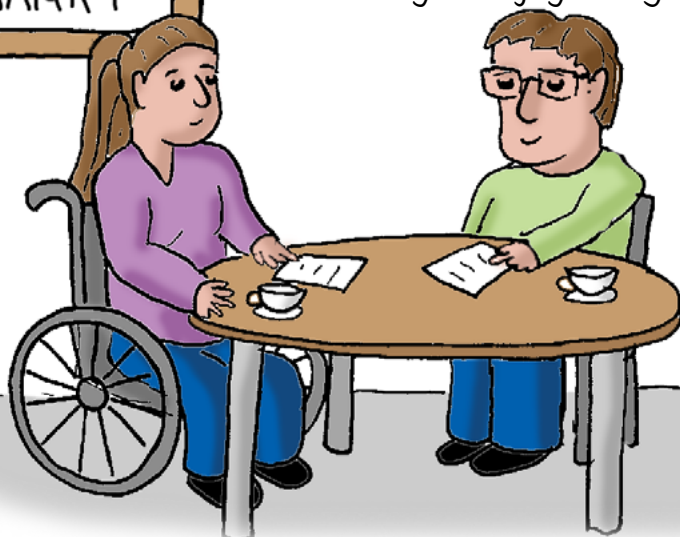
Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 12, says that children have a right to express their views and for due weight to be given to those views. Make sure you seek support and advice and be heard!



Your parent/guardian needs to inform your school in writing when you become EHE. If you are registered at a special school, your parent/guardian may need to contact the local authority for consent for you to become EHE.



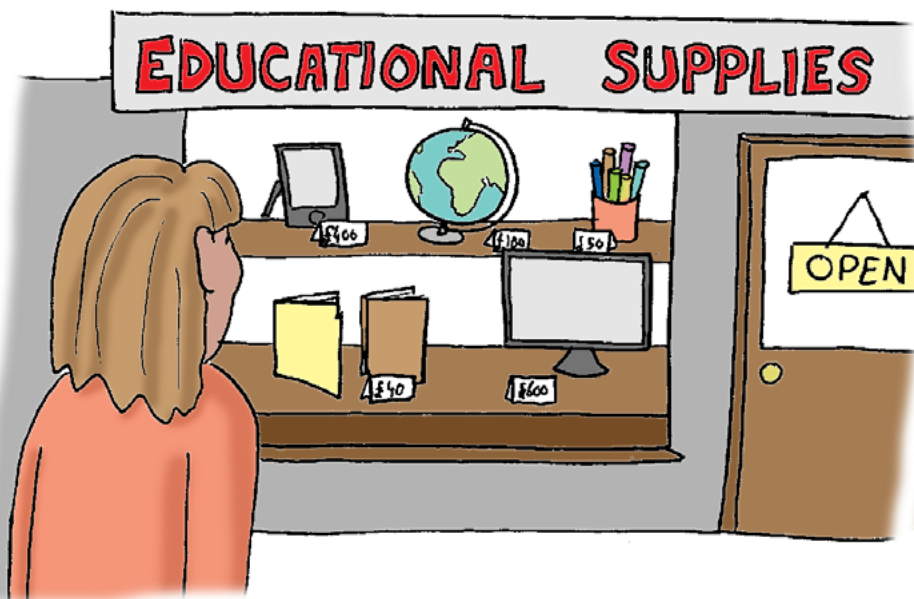
Your parent/guardian will need to plan where your education will take place. It must be in a setting that is suitable for undertaking teaching and learning. Make it somewhere you enjoy being.



When you become EHE, the local authority will contact your parent/guardian to make sure they have plans in place for your education. Your school and the local authority do not provide any plans, resources or academic work for your education. This is now your parent/guardian's responsibility.

Think before you act! Remember, when you become EHE your parent/guardian will have full responsibility for your education. This includes financial responsibility. Your parent/guardian won't receive any funding for your education, including for equipment, textbooks or IT devices

(e.g. a laptop). Your parent/guardian will also have to fund the cost of any exams you decide to sit.



Things you need to think about!



If you are preparing for exams, it might be helpful to find out before you leave school who the awarding body are and the specification you have been studying. This information can help you and your parent/guardian to find the right resources to

support you if you want to continue studying for these exams at home. You can also use this information to find an exam centre or school where you can sit these exams. The HE exams wiki has more information about taking exams: https://he-exams.fandom.com/wiki/HE_Exams_Wiki

AQA

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

wjec
cbac

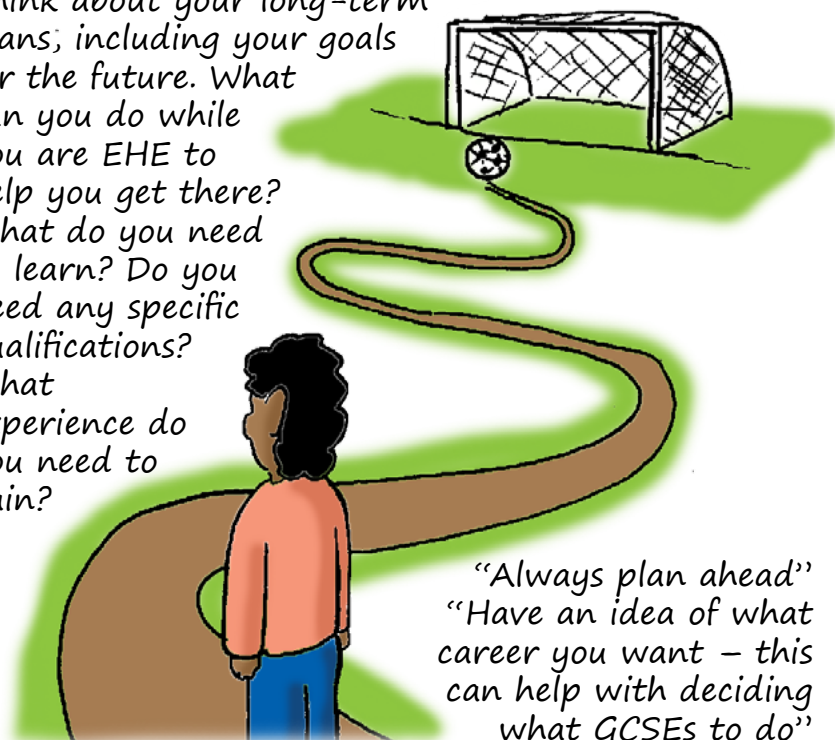
Pearson | Edexcel

When you become EHE, you might lose access to some support services, for example, you might no longer have support from autism services, speech and language therapy, or an educational psychologist. These things may matter if you

access such support services now or are thinking of doing so in the future!



Think about your long-term plans; including your goals for the future. What can you do while you are EHE to help you get there? What do you need to learn? Do you need any specific qualifications? What experience do you need to gain?



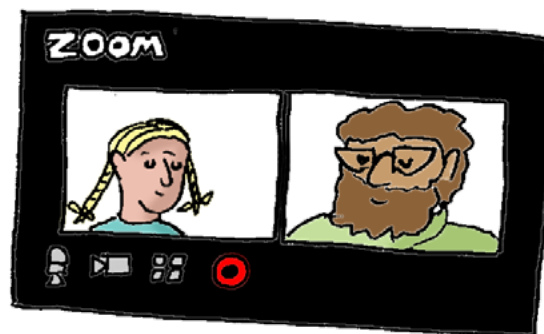
"Always plan ahead"
"Have an idea of what career you want – this can help with deciding what GCSEs to do"



How and where might you best learn?



Your parent/guardian is responsible for organising who teaches you. They can teach you themselves,



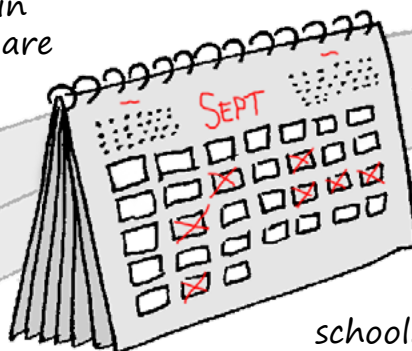
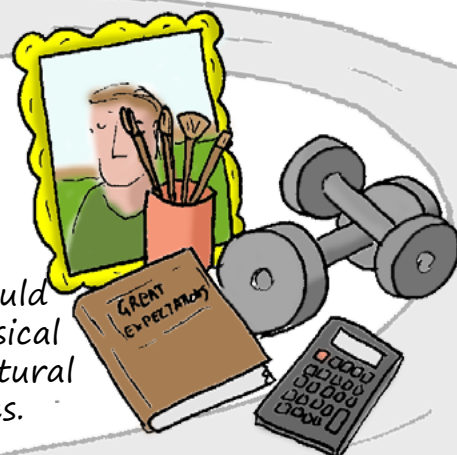
pay for online or distance teaching, enrol you in an online school or pay for a tutor.



You might be able to attend a part-time college course if you are in Year 10 or Year 11. This

depends on whether there is a college offering this provision in your area and whether there are places available. There may be a waiting list and a place at college is not guaranteed when you become EHE.

Your education doesn't have to follow a set curriculum when you are EHE, but it does have to include literacy and numeracy. You should also have access to physical exercise, and social, cultural and creative experiences.



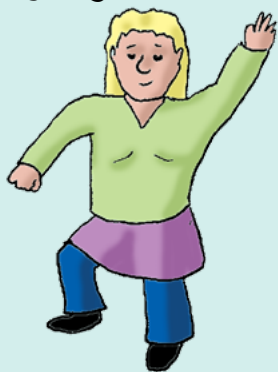
Your parent/guardian has to demonstrate the amount of time you are being educated, but this doesn't mean your education has to mirror school. Your education doesn't have to stick to set hours, days or school terms.

When you become EHE, you can learn in any way that you and your parent/guardian thinks will suit you. This might mean you have more control over what you learn, when you learn and how you learn compared to when you were in school. You might also have more control over the pace you learn at. For example, some young people say they get more chance to practice what they don't understand.

It is important for you and your parent/guardian to think about how you learn best. "There isn't one set way" "Find a way of studying that suits you"

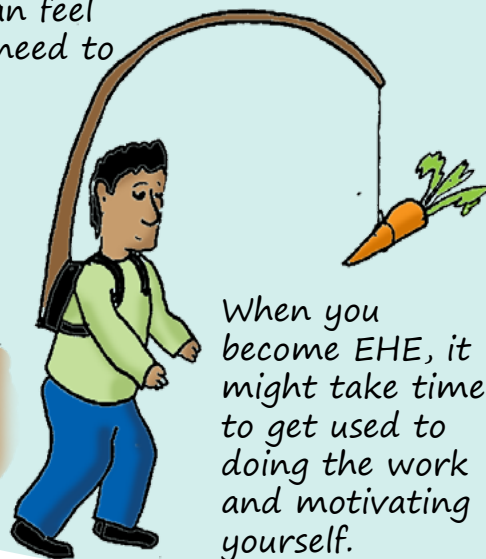


Staying Motivated

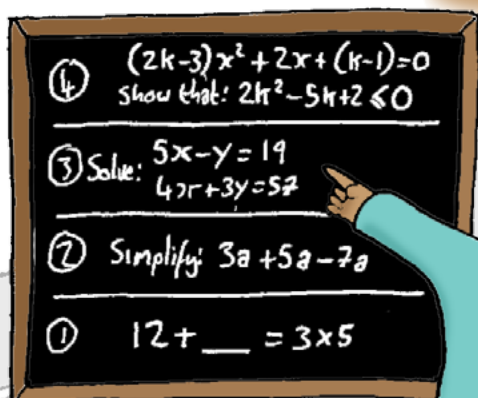


You might start lacking motivation / completing work can feel hard sometimes. Advice from other young people: "You need to be self-motivated. If you're not, you won't learn much."

Make time for activities you love to do.



When you become EHE, it might take time to get used to doing the work and motivating yourself.



Your parent/guardian has to make sure you are getting a 'suitable' and 'efficient' education. This means that the education must be appropriate for your age, ability and interests. It must be suitable for any special educational needs you have.



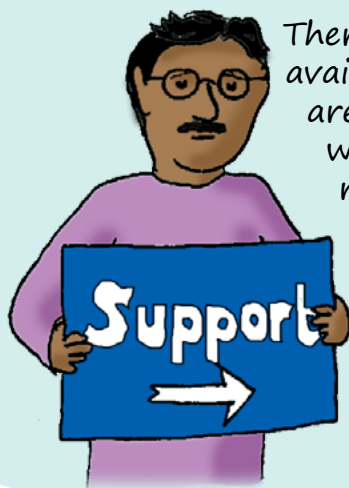
Make sure you know who to turn to for help if you get stuck when you are learning.

It might be difficult to know what to learn at first. You and your parent/guardian might think about what interests you. Tip from young people who are currently EHE: "be prepared to learn about new things"





Think about your own well-being!



There may be support available to you whilst you are EHE if you need help with mental health, relationships, substance abuse or other issues in your life. The local authority may be able to give you information or signpost you to services that can help.

Some young people have told us that the boundaries between home and learning have felt blurred: "I feel safe at home but sometimes trapped". They advise that it's important to make sure you look after your well-being. They have said it's important to: "stay active" and "get outdoors". They have also suggested that setting a routine might help you to find a balance between learning and free time.



Keep socialising

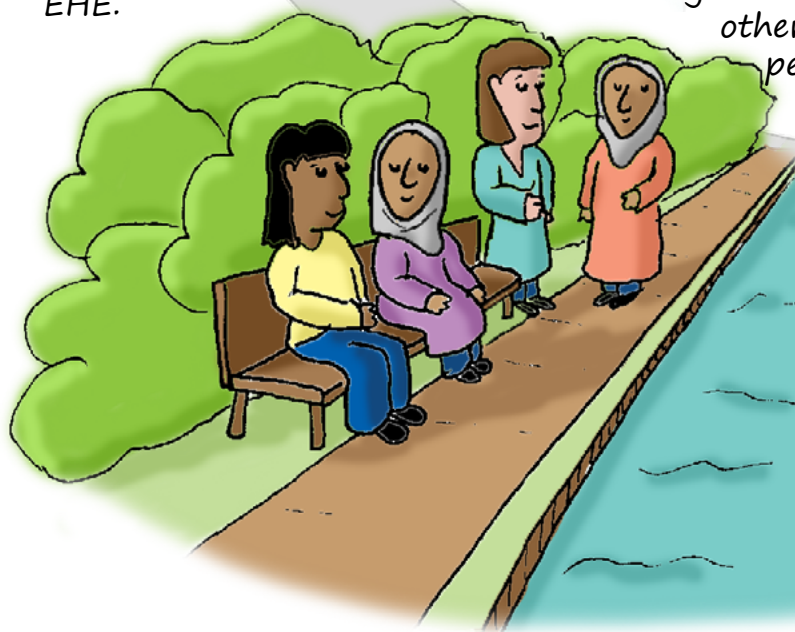
"It is more isolating than I was expecting. I missed chilling with my mates!" - Young person's comment.

It's important for you to have opportunities to socialise and develop friendships while you are EHE.

You might want to find clubs or activities or go on outings to socialise with other young people.



Comment from a young person - "You can meet many amazing people who may have similar interests as you"



If you want to keep in contact with the friends you have in school, think about how you will do this before you leave.



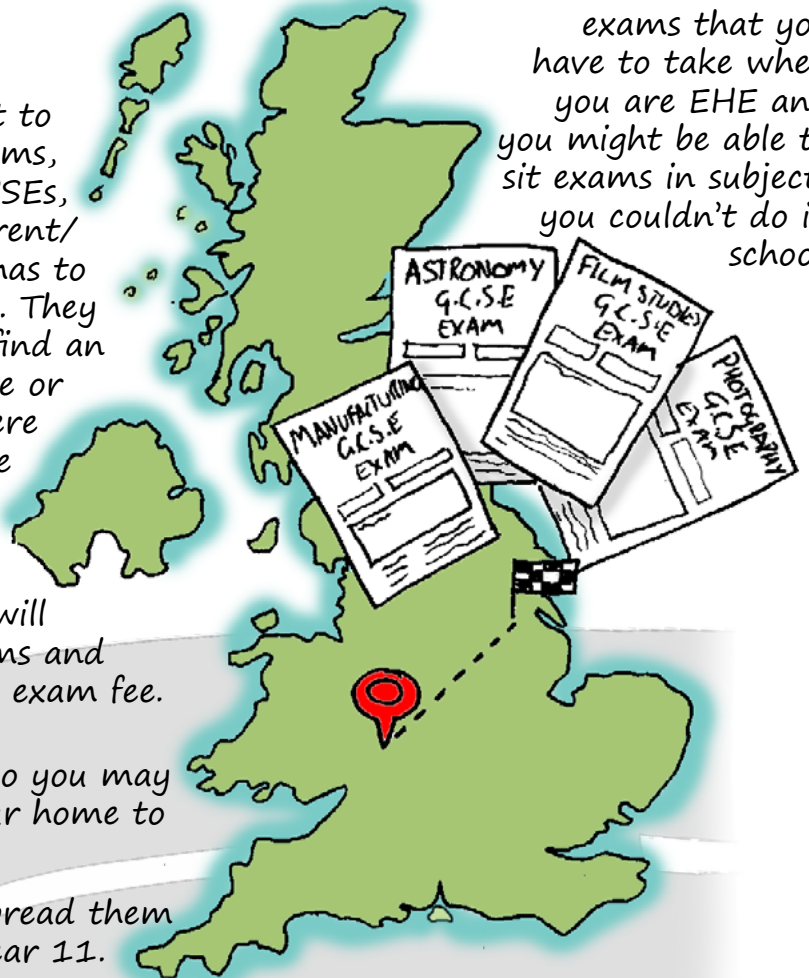
Always think ahead!
Do you want to take exams?



If you want to take any exams, including GCSEs, your parent/guardian has to arrange this. They will have to find an exam centre or school where you can sit the exams (and check it is the right one for the curriculum you have been taught). They will need to book the exams and pay an exam fee.

Exam centres are across the country so you may have to travel some distance from your home to sit your exams.

You could take your exams early or spread them out, rather than taking them all in Year 11.



There are no set exams that you have to take when you are EHE and you might be able to sit exams in subjects you couldn't do in school.

Think about which exams best fit with your future plans. What qualifications can help you achieve your goals?

Changing your mind about EHE?

Your parent/guardian can re-apply for you to return to school at any time of the year and will need to talk to the local authority about their process for in-year school admissions. There is no guarantee that you will be offered a place at one of your preferred schools or the school you left.

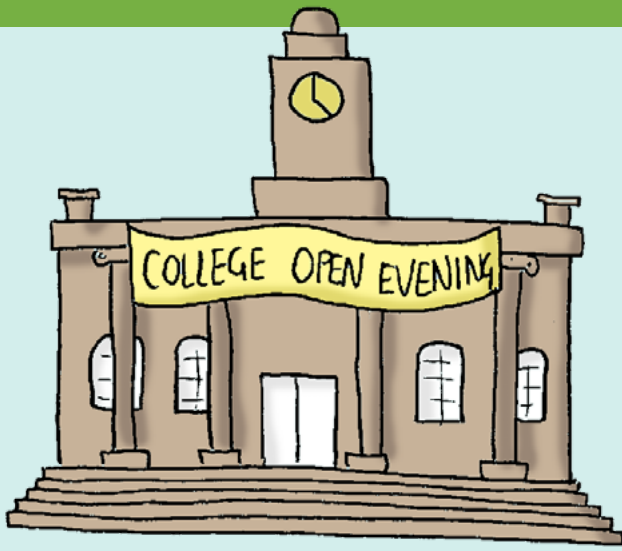


FUTURE

Young people are required to participate in education, training, or employment with training, until the age of 18. This includes college, apprenticeships, employment with training, attending sixth form or continuing EHE.

Think about your future plans!





You could attend a college Open Event to find out more about the courses they offer and their entry requirements.

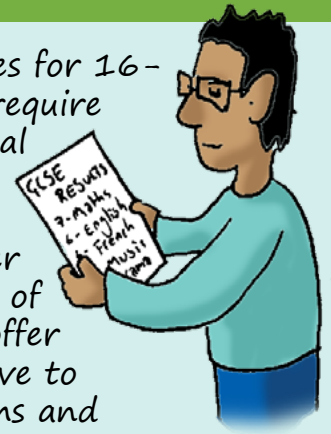
Apprenticeships let you combine hands-on practical work with learning, while employed in a salaried job. Find out more about becoming an apprentice here: <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>



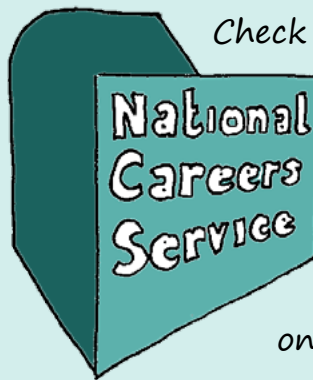
Work experience is not a requirement when you are EHE but may provide you with useful knowledge and skills for the future. There are regulations about young people and work that your parent/guardian will need to familiarise themselves with. It is important to ensure any work meets the regulations and there is insurance.

There may be training providers in your area where you can often study vocational qualifications in a smaller setting.

Some colleges offer courses for 16-18 year olds that do not require you to have any formal qualifications. However, most courses have entry requirements. A set number of GCSEs are often part of the requirement for an offer to be made. You may have to continue studying maths and English if you haven't yet achieved a GCSE grade 4 in these subjects.



Make sure you know the deadlines if you want to apply to college.



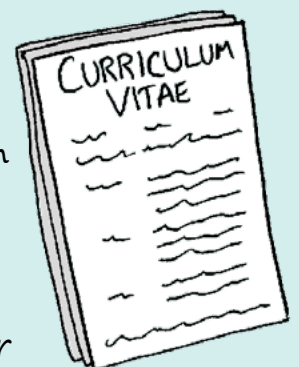
Check it out! The National Careers Service is a free careers service for adults and young people aged 13 and over. The service can provide you with confidential advice and guidance to make decisions on your learning, training and work opportunities.:

nationalcareers.service.gov.uk

Careers guidance and help with your options after Year 11 may be available from your local authority for EHE young people. Contact your local authority to find out more about the support offered.

A CV is a good tool to support a job search. The National Careers Service can help to create one.

Think about how you can gain skills and experience to boost your CV. "Look out for opportunities"



This resource has been created with young people, their families and Local Authority staff who work with Elective Home Educated young people and their families.

This work has been carried out by Lisa Russell, Katherine Davey, Jo Bishop and Ron Thompson at the University of Huddersfield to produce an easily accessible resource for young people and parents/guardians considering EHE.

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