
Comisiynydd Plant Cymru Children's Commissioner for Wales

Sally Holland

16 January 2019

Dear Chair

Elective home education

Further to our exchange of correspondence in December 2018, I write to update the Committee further in respect of the Welsh Government's proposals around elective home education and my ongoing role in scrutinising the same.

My last letter dated 12th December 2018 noted that I was due to meet with Welsh Government officials and lawyers on 17th December, to explore in more detail how my three tests for any home education policy will be met within the forthcoming revision to the guidance. I can confirm that this meeting took place and, from my perspective, was a constructive one. I was able to use the opportunity to reflect my thoughts on how the current guidance should include a much clearer expectation that existing statutory provisions available to local authorities must be followed in a timely way, should any concerns arise.

I was also able to reflect on my three tests and offer ongoing support to the Welsh Government, which will enable my office to keep continued scrutiny on the detail of the policy and how those three tests will be met. Officials confirmed to me at that meeting that the Welsh Government intends to meet all three of my tests and remain open to working with my office in order to achieve this.

I feel at present that this approach is a proportionate way to protect children's rights and ensure that the revised guidance is as strong as it needs to be in order to achieve that. However, I was clear in my message to Government; if at any time I am concerned at the content or pace of revisions to the guidance, my option to undertake a review remains.

I will keep the Committee updated should the position change in any way in relation to this important policy area.

Yours sincerely



Sally Holland
Children's Commissioner for Wales