



Hampshire  
County Council

# **Children & Young People Select Committee**

Update Report on Elective Home Education

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# Elective Home Education

- **National Picture** - including the impact of Covid
- **Government Consultation** - Children not in school: proposed legislation - it is anticipated that there should be a requirement for parents who chose to electively home educate their children to register them with the LA.
- **National Guidance was updated on EHE 2019** - Judicial Review judgement in Portsmouth, which was published at the end of November, is likely to influence future legislative changes in relation to the EHE guidance.

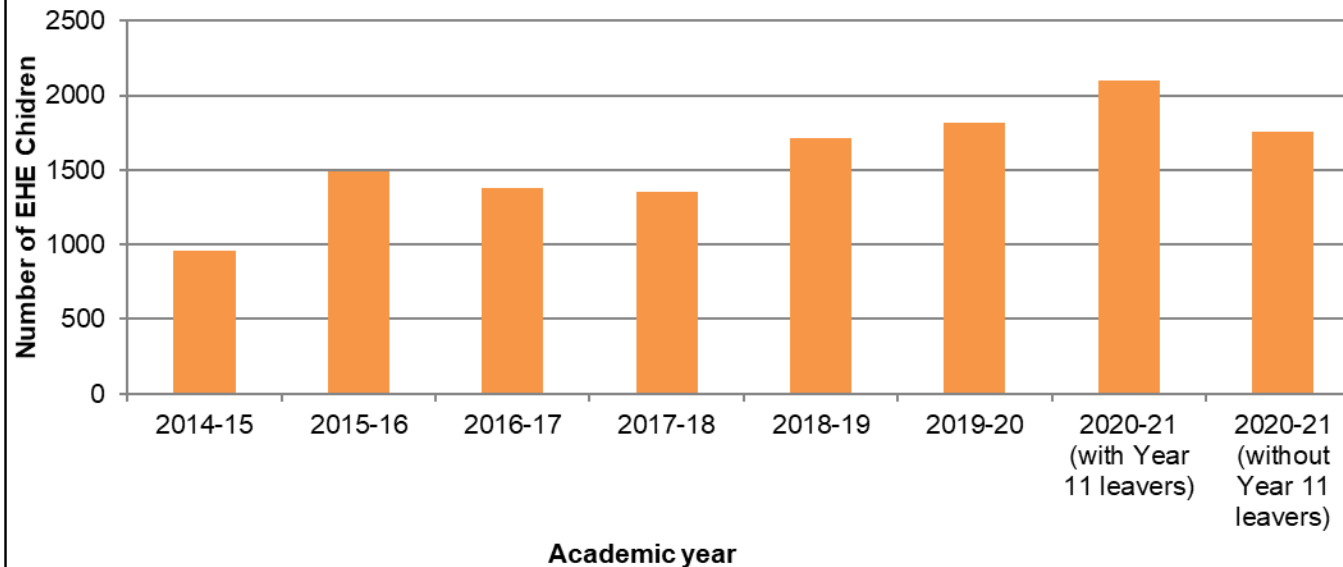
# Key Statistics

- In the 2020/2021 academic year over 2700 children and young people were EHE at some point.
- There has been increased turbulence in the EHE population, often for short periods.
- At the end of the academic year 2020/21, 27.8% of the cohort returned to school.
- Most children EHE are in the secondary sector(1.9%) compared to (0.7%) in primary.
- In 2020/2021 balance moved to more primary (54%) for the first time.
- 51% of EHE children and young people are boys and 49% girls. The largest group in EHE is Year 11.
- At the end of 2020/2021 the proportion of children EHE known to social care in the past 12 months was 9% of the cohort.
- Children and young people with some level of special educational needs represented 18.7% of the cohort in the summer term 2021 and 4.5% of the cohort had an EHCP.
- Covid-19 fears and emotional/physical health reasons are the major reasons listed for children and young people new to EHE.

# Data and Tracking

- Data quality is much improved
- The service was also able to track and close cases where families are no longer living in Hampshire.
- The team is linking closely with the Children Missing Education and Attendance Officer.
- Close multi-agency working continues.

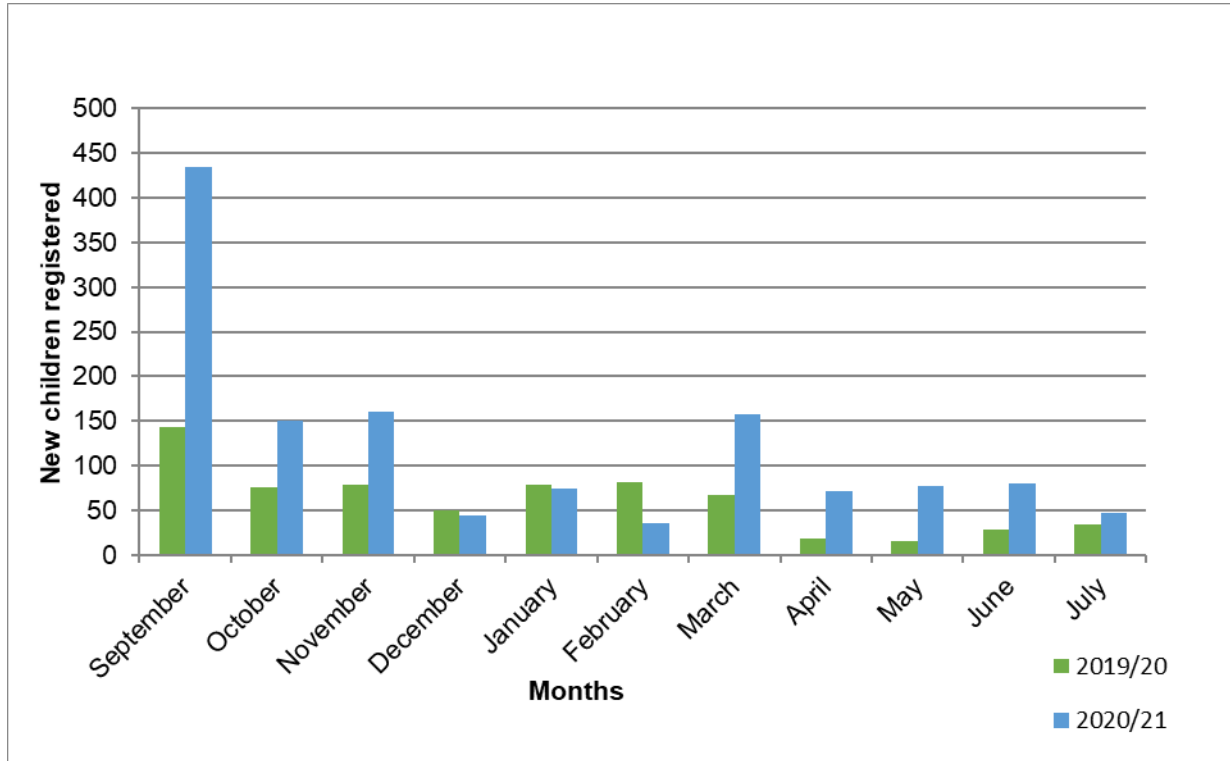
**Chart 1** - Number of children and young people registered as EHE – end of academic year numbers



**Chart 2** - Total new children and young people registered as EHE during Academic Years

Date	Hampshire*
Academic Year 2017/18	639
Academic Year 2018/19	839
Academic Year 2019/20	670
Academic Year 2020/21	1355
Autumn Term 2021 only	381

**Chart 3** - Number of children becoming EHE by month during the last two academic years



## Contextual

- The service has discovered that the more they seek information, the more information is required to act upon.
- A sizeable minority of parents do not wish to engage with the EHE service.

## Performance

- Since 2018 the EHE team has significantly improved parental engagement.
- In the academic year 2020 - 2021 there were 2160 engagements representing contacts of 1559 children who were listed as EHE.
- This represented 73% of the cohort total at the end of the summer term.

# Conclusions

- The number of children and young people becoming EHE has increased significantly in Hampshire and across England with large rises during the academic year 2020/2021.
- Over the next twelve months work will need to be undertaken to ensure that the team is ready to meet the potential changes in legislation/guidance arising from the Goodred v Portsmouth CC Judicial Review.