

Are you

- **Educating children outside of school?**
- **Looking for a private tutor?**

“The action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm is everyone’s responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play.”

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership



Safeguarding in Education Team

Key Documents:

Child Protection

Working Together to Safeguard Children - A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. (HM Government – July 2018)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/942454/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_inter_agency_guidance.pdf

The Children Act 2004 –section 11

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/31/pdfs/ukpga_20040031_en.pdf

The Education Act 2002 – section 175

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/section/175/enacted>

Elective Home Education

Elective Home Education Guidelines for Local Authorities (Department for Education, April 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elective-home-education>

The Department for Education has produced guidance to help parents think about some of the questions they would want to ask the person who runs an out-of-school setting in order to reassure themselves that the setting is a safe place. This can be accessed via the elective home education page on the Gloucestershire County Council website: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/home-education/>

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership



Safeguarding in Education Team

Child Protection when educating children other than at school

A Guide for Families

Updated December 2021

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Executive (GSCP) and 'Regulated Activity'

In accordance with Government guidelines, GSCP is responsible for ensuring that school staff, including volunteers, are properly checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and have received training in all aspects of Child Protection and Safeguarding.

We have no jurisdiction over private individuals such as tutors or teachers who are not registered with a school or recognised club as this is still not classed as regulated activity relating to children:

- family arrangements and personal, non-commercial arrangements
- peer exemption – activity by a person in a group assisting another member of the group'

Child Protection Queries and Concerns

If you have any questions about wider Child Protection or Safeguarding issues, you can contact GSCE as follows:

Website: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp
Telephone: 01452 583629

For immediate Child Protection concerns telephone the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): 01452 426565 during office hours and 101 (the Police) out of office hours

Advice for parents of home educated children

If you have taken the decision to educate your child other than in a school, you may decide to look for a tutor or private individual to assist you in educating your child at home.

You may also decide to enrol your child into a group educating children in an alternative setting.

The following questions might help you to establish whether the tutor, individual or group are working inside GSCP guidelines:

- Does the person who will be with your child hold an enhanced DBS Certificate?
- Are you able to see the certificate and its date?
- If the individual has not had a DBS check but you feel they are right to help your child, are you able to reduce any risk by ensuring they are not left alone with your child?
- Is the individual aware of the South West Child Protection Procedures? These can be found at:
<https://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/>
- If enrolling your child in a group, does the group have a Designated Child Protection Lead or someone responsible for ensuring that children are safe?

- Has this person had any training and are they aware of the South West Child Protection procedures?
- Does the group have a Child Protection or Safeguarding Policy? If so, ask for a copy. If not, what steps would they take if such an issue arose?

Talk to your child on a regular basis about his or her relationship with a tutor.

DBS checks do not run out but should be re-applied for if the person has had a break in service of more than 3 months or there are concerns about the person's suitability to work or volunteer with children and young people.

In either of these cases, a new DBS check would be required and you can insist the individual working with your child has an enhanced disclosure before employing them.

Disclosure and Barring Service

Further information about DBS checks can be found on the DBS website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>