



**Elective Home Education (EHE)
End of Year Report 2024/25**

October 2025



“The government’s aim is to ensure all young people receive world-class education, which allows them to reach their potential and live a more fulfilled life, regardless of background. That education should be provided in a safe environment, whether at school or at home.

Parents have a right to educate their children at home, and the government wants the many parents who do it well to be supported. They devote time, financial resources and dedication to the education of their children. Most parents who take up the weighty responsibility of home education do a great job, and many children benefit from being educated at home.

Educating children at home, works well when it is a positive, informed and dedicated choice. However, the past few years have seen a very significant increase in the number of children being educated at home, and there is considerable evidence that many of these children are not receiving a suitable education. There is a less well evidenced but increasing concern that some children educated at home may not be in safe environments.

The department believes that although the primary responsibility for ensuring that children are properly educated belongs to parents, a local authority has a moral and social obligation to ensure that a child is safe and being suitably educated. If it is not clear that that is the case, the authority should act to remedy the position.

This guidance is intended to help local authorities understand their existing powers, and their duties in relation to children who are being educated at home, and how those relate to the obligations of parents. It aims to enable local authorities to identify children not receiving a suitable education and do something about it. The result should be that every child is receiving a suitable education in a safe and appropriate setting, whether at home or in school.”

Elective home education: departmental guidance for local authorities (publishing.service.gov.uk)

More details is provided in Camden’s policy which is in line with the EHE DfE statutory guidance (April 2019).

New national guidance and legislation on EHE is expected in the academic year 2025/26

2024-25 Data Analysis

There were 153 new EHE notifications, following a larger number of new notifications in autumn 2024. This total number is slightly higher than the 2023/24 total

From 1 September 2024 – 22 July 2025

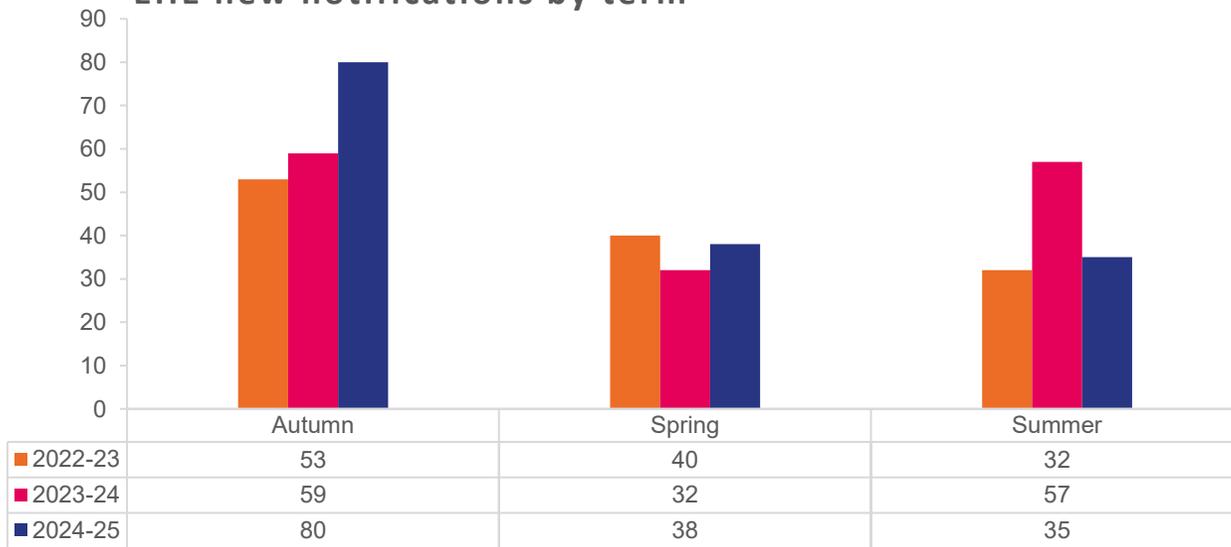
- 377 children were recorded as home educated. With 361 cases statutory school age pupils.
 - 49 cases were reviewed in 2024/25 (a meeting took place) and will next be reviewed in 2025/26
 - 91 active cases were waiting for their first report from our Home Education Adviser
 - 38 cases were closed due to pupils becoming older than statutory school age and these cases were passed to Connexions (RPA)
 - 48 cases were awaiting first outline report from parent / carer
 - 85 cases were closed for a variety of reasons (with going back to a Camden School being the most common reasons)
 - 14 cases had issues that are being followed up with parents / carers
 - 36 cases are due to be reviewed from Sept 2025– Dec 2025.
- New and Closed cases - there were 153 new cases and 93 closed cases in 2024/25. This compares to 148 new cases in 2023/24.
- Pupils with Special Educational Needs: There were 22 pupils with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) with 4 being Raising Participation Age (RPA) so closed to EHE. Our 18 (EHCP) cases are being met jointly with the home education adviser and the allocated SEN adviser through Yearly Annual Review meetings.
- It is challenging to make and maintain contact with families as there is no requirement for them to talk or provide information to the LA under current guidance. Under the current guidance the LA has the duty to make enquiries. This is undertaken through telephone calls, email, and twice annual letters.
- More information on EHE figures from 2016 is available on the [Camden Open Data site](#).
- At the start of September 2024 there were 224 EHE children recorded as home educated (14 have an EHCP without a social worker and 2 with a social worker).
- Unsuitable provision across the year.
 - 6 cases with EHCP – referred to the SEND Team
 - 12 cases with Social Care intervention - returned to provision or currently in transition planning stages
 - 11 cases closed after meeting with parents - voluntarily returned to school



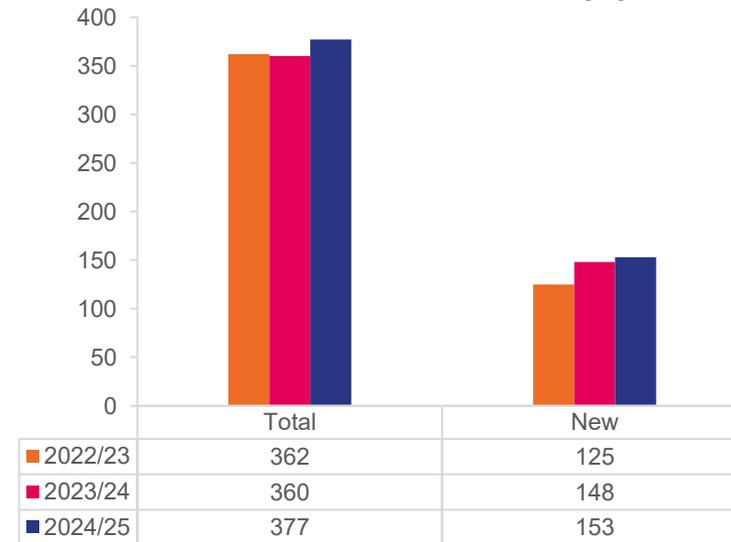
Number of new EHE Notifications

Relatively high number of new notifications alongside a large number of EHE referrals overall

EHE new notifications by term



EHE total notifications by year



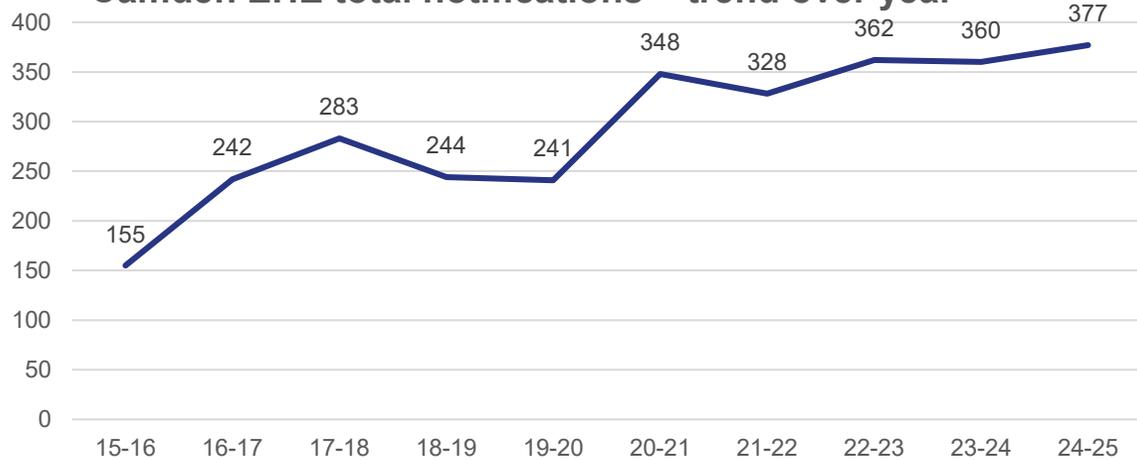
In 2024/25, there were 153 new EHE notifications.

- This was slightly higher than the last few years.
 - Autumn was the month with the largest number of new notifications (with 43 in September alone, more than the Spring or Summer term in total).
- There were 377 total cases in 2024/25 (including new notifications, open cases and closed cases), which is a slight increase on previous years.

Number of EHE notifications

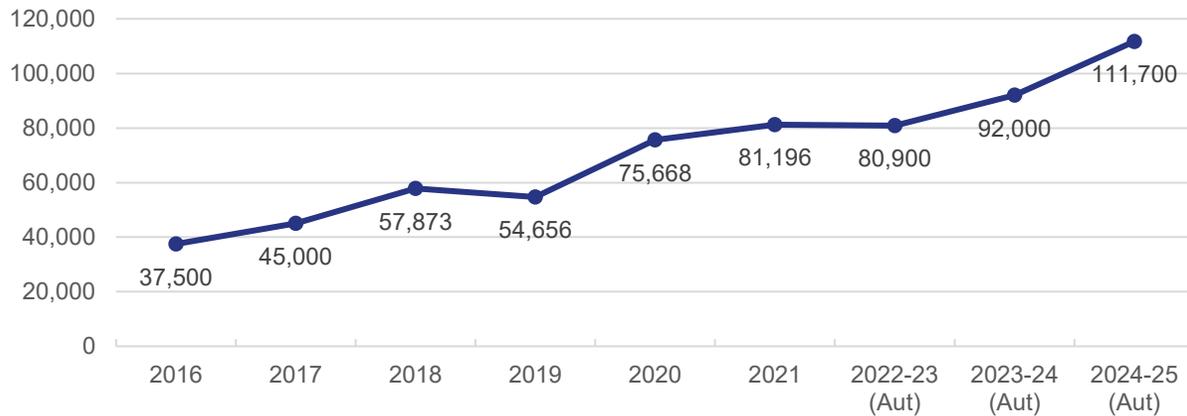
EHE referrals in Camden continue to increase, similar to the national picture

Camden EHE total notifications - trend over year



- 2024-25 saw the number of EHE notifications increase again, to the highest number on record in Camden.
- Data from the DfE’s published number of EHE cases showed 117,000 cases in Autumn 2024.
- LAs across London have reported a steady increase in the number of EHE pupils.

National number - (ADCS est (2016-21), DfE EHE Census (2022-23 onwards))





Reasons parents choose to EHE

Where a reason has been provided or a family has been visited, lifestyle choice and dissatisfaction with the school system, or school(s), at which a place is available are the main reasons parents/ carers chose to educate at home.

In 2024-25, there was a reduction in the proportion of notifications where a reason was not provided by the parent. Although every parent is asked to give a reason why they chose to electively home educate, it is a voluntary declaration. No reason is given for nearly 40% of new notifications, making meaningful analysis of motivations difficult. Where obtained, lifestyle choice was the most common reason provided, followed by home schooling as a short-term intervention, alongside dissatisfaction with the school system, or school(s) at which a place is available.

	2022/23		2023-24 revised		2024-25 revised	
As a short term intervention for a particular reason	7	6%	11	7%	12	8%
Bullying of the child at school	4	3%	4	3%	2	1%
Health concerns relating to Covid-19	0	-	0	-	1	1%
Did not get school preference (reception)			1	1%	0	-
Did not get school preference (secondary - Year 7)	2	2%	2	1%	5	3%
Did not get school preference (In year admission)			3	2%	3	2%
Difficulty in accessing a school place (CME)	2	2%	0	-	4	3%
Dispute with school about SEN	2	2%	4	3%	1	1%
Dissatisfaction with the school system, or the school(s) at which a place is available	2	2%	5	3%	11	7%
Mental health e.g Anxiety - medical evidence provided	3	2%	1	1%	3	2%
Mental health - no medical evidence provided			5	3%	6	4%
School Phobia	1	1%	0	-	1	1%
Lifestyle choice	30	24%	7	5%	20	13%
Parent Elect to Educate at Home	3	2%	0	-	1	1%
Permanent Exclusion	0	-	0	-	1	1%
Philosophical or preferential reasons	2	2%	7	5%	5	3%
Physical Health - medical evidence provided			4	3%	3	2%
Physical Health - no medical evidence provided	0	-	3	2%	1	1%
Risk of school exclusion			1	1%	3	2%
Religious reasons	2	2%	2	1%	1	1%
Special Educational Need or a perceived lack of suitable provision in the school system for those needs	3	2%	14	9%	6	4%
Other	3	2%	2	1%	4	3%
Parent / Guardian did not give reason	59	47%	72	49%	59	39%
Total	125		148		153	

Length of time EHE

Stable picture of proportions staying EHE for a longer time and those leaving EHE each year

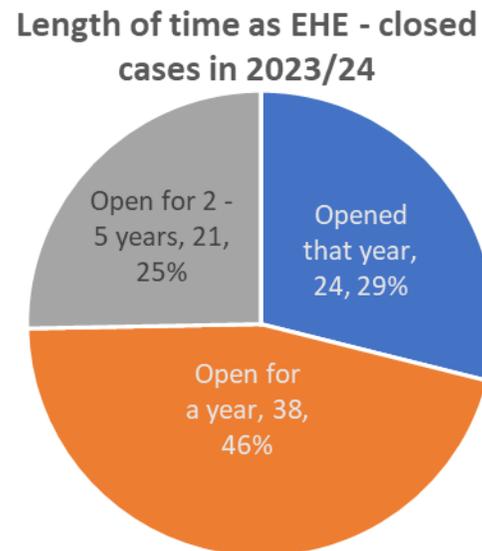
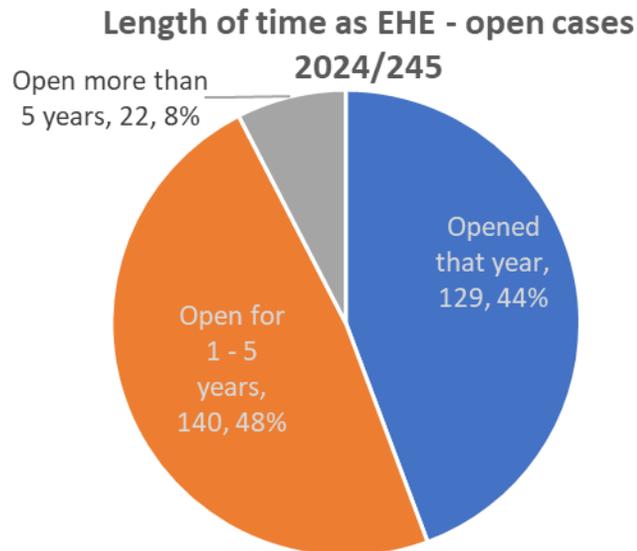
Whilst there are cases opening and closing throughout any given year, there are a large number of children who remain EHE for more than a year.

Length of time as EHE – open cases

Of cases that remained EHE during 2024-25, 44% of them were opened during 2024/25. 8% cases had been open for more than 5 years. These are similar proportions to previous years.

Length of time as EHE – closed cases

Of cases that closed during 2024/25, 46% had only been EHE since the start of 2024/25. A further 29% of these had opened in 2023/24 and only 25% were open for more than 2 years. No cases open for more than five years closed.





Vulnerabilities of new cases

Poor attendance was the most common vulnerability in 2024/25

In 2023/24, a new, extended list of vulnerabilities was used, in line with DfE reporting requirements, so comparisons with previous years are not directly possible.

Poor attendance (between 50-90%) was found to be the most common vulnerability, with 25% of new cases. This was the most common reason in 2023-24 too.

In total, 6 cases had an EHCP, with SEN being found to be a vulnerability in a number of cases, with SEN Support and SEN needs being identified by the parents being cited.

12 cases had a social worker, with the largest group being current CiN.

This list will change again in 2025-26 due to DfE reporting requirements.

	2023-24		2024-25 YTD	
Current CP	0	-	2	2%
CP (Closed in last 12 months)	1	1%	0	-
Current CiN	3	2%	7	7%
CiN (closed in current academic year)	1	1%	0	-
CiN (closed in last 12 months)	1	1%	0	-
Early Help	4	3%	9	8%
Safeguarding issues raised by school / LA	5	4%	9	8%
Poor attendance before EHE (50% to 90%)	47	33%	26	25%
Severely absent before EHE (below 50% attendance)	8	6%	1	1%
<90% attendance before EHE	13	9%	2	2%
Health issues - medical evidence provided	8	6%	2	2%
Mental health issues - medical evidence provided	3	2%	1	1%
Bullying	0	-	1	1%
Concern raised by professional network about home education	0	-	1	1%
CME referral (or without school place for more than half a term) in the last 12 months	6	4%	19	18%
Never attended school	3	2%	2	2%
EHE previous LA / country	3	2%	2	2%
EHCP & SW	1	1%	3	3%
EHCP	4	3%	3	3%
SEN Support in school	3	2%	4	4%
SEN needs identified by parents	1	1%	1	1%
Refugee (Ukrainian)	0	-	2	2%
Refugee (other groups)	2	1%	0	-
Closed case to EHE	24	17%	0	-
LA concern	1	1%	9	8%
All those with identified vulnerabilities	142		106	
Total with SW	7	5%	12	11%
Total with EHCP	5	4%	6	6%
None identified	4		47	

Goals and Next Steps



Goals Achieved for 2024/25

- Regular reviews undertaken to ensure EHE Policy and Procedures are in line with DfE Guidance
- Termly audits of EHE pupils known to the service undertaken.
- Website information and resources for parents reviewed and updated.
- Termly analysis of EHE data
- EHE termly training for schools.
- Continued work with schools to improve information sharing processes around off-rolling information
- Close work with the Family Link Officer to ensure “at risk “ of EHE are identified, particularly Year 6 transition to secondary school if required
- Work with Public Health colleagues to share information with parents about vaccinations available to home educated pupils
- Submission of termly data for DfE (COLLECT)
- Outreach to EHE groups in Camden and other LAs



Plans for 2025/26

- Review and update EHE Policy and Procedures are in line with DfE Guidance. (New guidance on EHE is expected in the Academic year 2025/26 when Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act is passed)
- Review website information and resources for parents to reflect new legislation
- To offer training when new legislation is updated
- EHE termly training for schools and updates on new requirements once legislation is updated
- Development of new EHE data dashboards by CACI Impulse database expected to be developed Spring / Summer 26
- Termly audits of EHE pupils known to the service
- Increase EHE Adviser capacity from 0.4 FTE to 1 FTE in response to the rising number of home-educated children.