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Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref KW/06016/16

Councillor Guy Woodham
Pembrokeshire Council

scrutiny@swansea.gov.uk

9 November 2016

Dear Guy

Thank you for your letter of 26 October regarding the safeguarding of electively home educated children.

The Welsh Government is due to publish new non-statutory guidance for local authorities in the coming weeks. It takes into account many of the findings of the child practice review you refer to, especially around safeguarding and children's rights.

While the findings of the review focus on elective home education, it is important we consider this case in a wider context and any implications for how regulations, guidance and good practice support all professionals working with adults and children. Our approach must therefore cross Cabinet responsibilities to ensure no individual is so invisible that the risks of harm they may be exposed to cannot be identified and addressed.

To accompany the guidance, we will be publishing a leaflet for parents which clarifies their rights and responsibilities in relation to elective home education, and answers some of the key questions parents might ask when considering to home educate.

We continue to consider the potential for further action to help support elective home educated learners, including if statutory guidance and/or regulation may be appropriate or necessary.

In the meantime we will continue to support professionals to act on their professional curiosity and work more effectively with home educating families.

Yours sincerely

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.