

Get the Kit!

The Education Otherwise award for excellence

What is 'Kit'

The 'kit' award is based on an education officer we call 'Kit', because we believe that every education officer who comes into contact with home educating parents should be like Kit. Kit could be any individual in the role, but what makes Kit stand out, is that home educating families tell us that the work Kit does is positive, legal and well informed.

We know that education staff want to do the best job that they can, to earn the respect both of their colleagues and the families that they work with, so that they can trust you to do what is right. We also know that where education officers are like Kit, they enjoy good relationships with home educating families in their area, which makes their task easier and more enjoyable.

Where the overall practice of the local authority meets the high standards of the Kit scheme, an award will be made to the home education department as a whole.

Awards are made to the chief officer of the local authority, for each officer, in order that they can recognise good practice in their staff.

Awards are based on nominations from home educating families who have direct experience of their own education officer's work practice.

Local authorities who would like to take part in the Kit scheme are welcome to circulate our Kit questionnaire to the home educating families in their area, in order to ensure the widest possible feedback to support the Kit scheme.

The survey link can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H75RGZG>

The 'Kit' award recognises those officers who have achieved high standards in their role.

So Get the Kit!

Introductory text for parents:

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We know that home educating families want education staff do the best job that they can and to be respectful toward the families that they work with, so that they can trust each education officer to do what is right. We also know that where education officers are like Kit, families enjoy good relationships with those officers, which makes necessary contact with their local authority much easier for everyone concerned.

Where the overall practice of the local authority meets the high standards of the Kit scheme, an award will be made to the home education department as a whole.

Awards are made to the chief officer of the local authority, for the relevant education officer, in order that they can encourage good practice in all of their staff.

Awards are based on nominations from home educating families who have direct experience of their own education officer's work practice. If multiple nominations are made for one education officer, they are combined to arrive at a single score, so every vote counts.

Families are welcome to circulate our Kit questionnaire to other home educating families in their area, in order to ensure the widest possible feedback to support the Kit scheme.

The survey can be accessed here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H75RGZG>

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So Get the Kit!

Paper copy: Kit questionnaire

Is your local authority education officer like Kit?

Name of officer

Local authority.....

My local authority officer:

	Always	usually	sometimes	rarely	never	Don't know
Is positive and enthusiastic about home education and that encourages others to be positive too						
challenges unhelpful assumptions about home education						
took the time to learn about and understand different forms of home education						
acts in a respectful way toward home educating parents						
provides clear and accurate information about home education						
signposts home educating families to helpful resources and information						
has clear and accurate policies for how working with home educating families						
Recognises that home education is the best choice for some children						
is careful to only attend the homes of home educating families by agreed appointment						
champions home educating families when other individuals or organisations are letting them down						
always complies with data protection laws						

properly considers information provided by parents, no matter what form that information is in						
allows parents a reasonable time scale to reply to any enquiries						
ensures that any information asked for is the minimum information necessary to understand provision						
treats home educating families as equals						
explains any concerns there might be about home education provision clearly and gives practical support to parents to improve when they need to do so						
recognises that enforcement procedures are a tool of last resort						
Other, please specify						

Please return completed questionnaires to: enquiries@educationotherwise.org

