

Other Useful contacts

Staffordshire County Council Main Reception

Tel: 0300 111 8000

Monday to Thursday 8am to 8pm

Friday 8am to 6pm

Saturday 9am to 5pm

First Response

Telephone: **0800 1313126**

Email: first@staffordshire.gov.uk

To report a concern about a child's safety or wellbeing

Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board

www.staffsscb.org.uk

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/childprotection

For guidance and advice on keeping children safe

School Admissions & Transport Service

Telephone: **01785 278593**

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Email: admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk

For applications to school and queries on transport eligibility

School Choice Advice Service

Telephone: **01785 278992**

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schoolchoice

Email: choiceadvice@staffordshire.gov.uk

Supporting parents with the school admissions and appeals process

Elective Home Education

Telephone: **01785 278265**

www.education.staffordshire.gov.uk/curriculum/services/homeeducation

Email: electivehomeeducation@staffordshire.gov.uk

For advice about home education

Families First - Local Support Teams

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/localsupport

For advice on children not attending school or families needing support

Contact the Children Missing Education Officer:

If you think a child might be missing education or to find out more:

Phone: 01785 278999

Email: cme.referrals@staffordshire.gov.uk

Web: (including referral form for professionals)

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/childrenmissingeducation

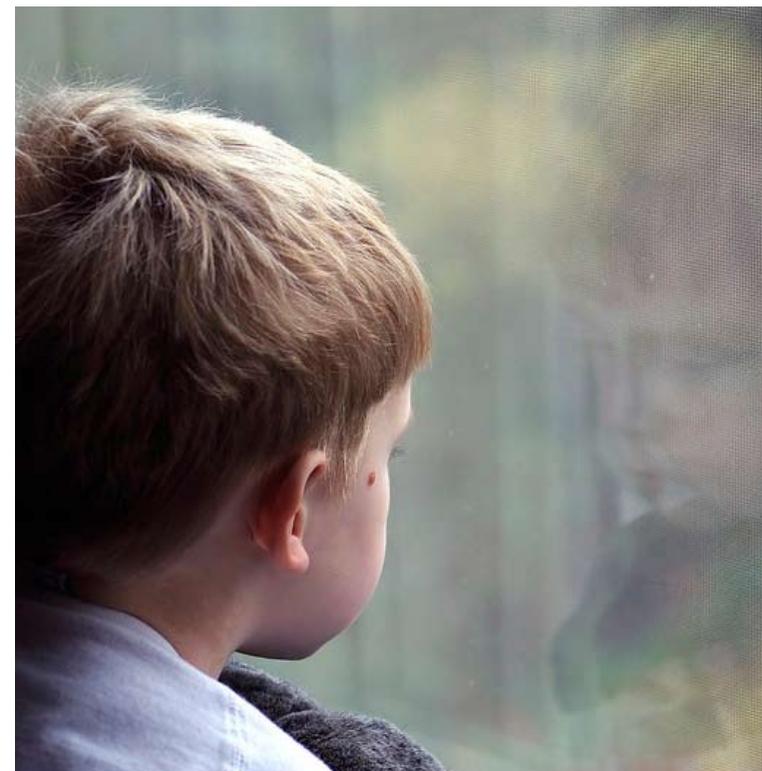
Post: Children Missing Education Officer
Tipping Street, Stafford ST16 2DH



We can make this information available in another language or format, please contact us to request this.

Children Missing Education

Who they are and how we can help them



Who are Children Missing Education?

Children of compulsory school age who are:

- Not on a school roll (not including children who are going through the school admissions process)
- Not being educated in an alternative provision
- Not being educated at home

Why do children go missing from education?

The most common reasons are:

- they don't start school when they reach school age
- they don't transfer to high school when they should
- the family moves house regularly or becomes homeless
- the family have experienced domestic violence and especially if this means time spent in refuges
- family breakdown or domestic difficulties
- parents "withdraw" children from school due to a dispute or disagreement
- no school places are available when family moves to a new area
- parents decide to home educate unofficially i.e. without the local authority knowing

Staffordshire has a Children Missing Education Officer who works with schools, agencies and the public to identify and support children who are missing or at risk of missing education.



Why it's important

We are concerned about any child or young person who may be missing education, as it might not be just their educational development at risk but also their safety and wellbeing.

How you can help

If you know or suspect a child is missing from education, please let us know straight away.

You can contact the Children Missing Education Officer by phone, letter or email (see reverse of leaflet), and you can remain anonymous if you wish. By notifying us of your concerns you are helping to ensure the safety and wellbeing of some of the most vulnerable children in our community and your assistance is greatly appreciated.

What happens next?

Checks are always carried out before contacting parents or carers, so it is always better to advise the Children Missing Education Officer if you are in any doubt.

If the family need support to help the child back into school we can provide this. Other agencies such as health, police and housing will be contacted if a child cannot be located.

There is a national network of Children Missing Education colleagues across the UK who work together to make sure children receive the right support wherever they move to.