

# Expression of interest

# Elective home education: call for evidence – government consultation analysis

**Project reference: 2018/038**

**Deadline for expressions of interest: 29 May 2018**

## Summary

Expressions of interest are sought to complete a thorough analysis of the qualitative responses to the Department for Education’s *Elective home education: call for evidence* consultation document.

## Background

The Department for Education (DfE) is calling for evidence to help consideration of whether the current arrangements for oversight of elective home education are adequate to fulfil the government’s aspiration that all children in England should receive a good education. It also seeks views on the proposed updating of departmental guidance on current arrangements for elective home education.

The consultation is aimed at the following groups:

* Parents and young people, especially those taking part in elective home education;
* Local authorities;
* Organisations which support families taking part in elective home education;
* Schools and teachers, and their representative organisations.

This call for evidence gives scope to all interested parties to provide evidence on what works well, and what works less well, in ensuring that children educated at home are properly educated. It is also intended to allow respondents to put forward ideas and proposals for change, and justification for such change. The government has not made any decision on these issues but does believe that even if the majority of children who are educated at home are educated well, it is essential to ensure that this does not leave a minority of children ill-served.

The consultation is taking place at a time when there is heightened interest in home education arising from the introduction of a private member’s bill (the Home Education (Duty of Local Authorities) into the House of Lords. The DfE consultation started on 10 April and runs until 2nd July and includes 23 questions. We require an analysis of all responses we receive - we expect to receive several thousand (the previous consultation on this issue held in 2009 generated around 2,000 responses). Most of the questions are open so this project requires experience of using qualitative analysis techniques on large datasets. The majority of responses are expected to be received via an online survey form, although some will be via letter, email or records of meetings.

## Project aims

The aim of the project is to provide a full analysis of the responses received to the consultation document which will include identifying themes and recommendations made by different stakeholder groups on each of the areas covered in the consultation. This will be considered alongside other engagement activity the Department is undertaking to inform further policy development and the government’s official response to the consultation.

## Methodology

We require an organisation experienced in completing large scale text analysis (preferably in the context of public consultations) and able to use innovative methods to deliver the analysis in a relatively short timescale. The analysis should be made available in a form that allows us to complete further interrogation of the data.

## Timing

We would like to receive a draft report in mid-August and a final report in early September 2018. We are not publishing a budget for this work because we hope to identify innovative and efficient approaches for completing large scale qualitative analysis.

* Deadline for EOIs – 29th May 2018 – midday
* Invitations to Tender issued – 31st May 2018
* Deadline for ITT submission – 14th June 2018 - midday

## Assessment criteria

Expressions of interest will be assessed against the following criteria:

* Understanding of the Department’s requirement.
* Capacity to develop an appropriate methodology and reporting approach
* Evidence of experience of the proposed methods to be used.
* Knowledge of the policy context.

Expressions of interests submitted must be no more than 750 words – anything longer will be disregarded.

| **Closing date for EOIs: Midday on 29th May 2018** **Send your EOI form to: Robert.cirin@education.gov.uk** |
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## How to submit an expressions of interest

You must submit an expression of interest (EOI) in order to be considered to be invited to tender. To do so, please complete the NEW EOI Form which can be found under attachments. A submission of an EOI does not guarantee an invitation to tender and the Department does not routinely advise organisations that they have not been successful in being invited to tender. Feedback is however available on request.

All contracts are let on the basis of the [Department’s Terms and Conditions](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eoi-guide). You are encouraged to check these before submitting your expression of interest, as these would form part of your contractual obligations.

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