

**No: 063****11 September 2014****One Minute Guide:
Children Missing Education (CME)****What is this about?**

Children Missing Education (CME) concerns young people of compulsory school age who are not on a school roll, or being educated according to the law. This includes young people known to live in the borough who are not engaged in education as well as those who were previously on roll at a Redbridge school, and have moved away. Young people may be out of the education system for a range of reasons. For example they may have not been enrolled for school or elective home education in Redbridge, they may leave the area with their education provision not confirmed, or they may belong to a mobile or transient community. There is a higher risk of missing education when young people move across local authority boundaries, and certain life events make some children more vulnerable - for example young carers, looked after children, and those from Gypsy Roma or Traveller backgrounds. CME does not include young people registered at a Redbridge education provision with poor attendance. The Education Welfare Service works with young people under these circumstances.

How do we support the Local Authority meet its statutory obligations?

To address the issues presented by this group of young people - often with distinct and complex needs, Redbridge employs Children Missing Education officers. As part of the Education Welfare service, the role of these specialist workers is to identify, track, and monitor young people who are missing from education. They take referrals from a wide range of sources and maintain a database of all young people not currently on a school roll. They are responsible for ensuring each case is investigated thoroughly, acting on all information received. Multi agency collaboration and consultation is used to re-engage young people with appropriate provision and all young people are closely monitored until it is confirmed that they are being educated in borough or have reached a destination outside Redbridge (including those that have left the UK) and are receiving a suitable education. Advice and support is available for professionals to identify and work with those children at risk of missing education.

What legislation do we refer to?

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to investigate cases of Children Missing Education in accordance with a variety of legislation including the Education and Inspections Act 2006, The Children Act 2004, and The Education Act 2002 S175 which describes the Local Authority's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

How can I find out more?

If you would like refer a child missing education, or would like to discuss the process in more detail please phone Children Missing Education on 0208 708 6047, 0208 708 3838 or email EWS@redbridge.gov.uk.