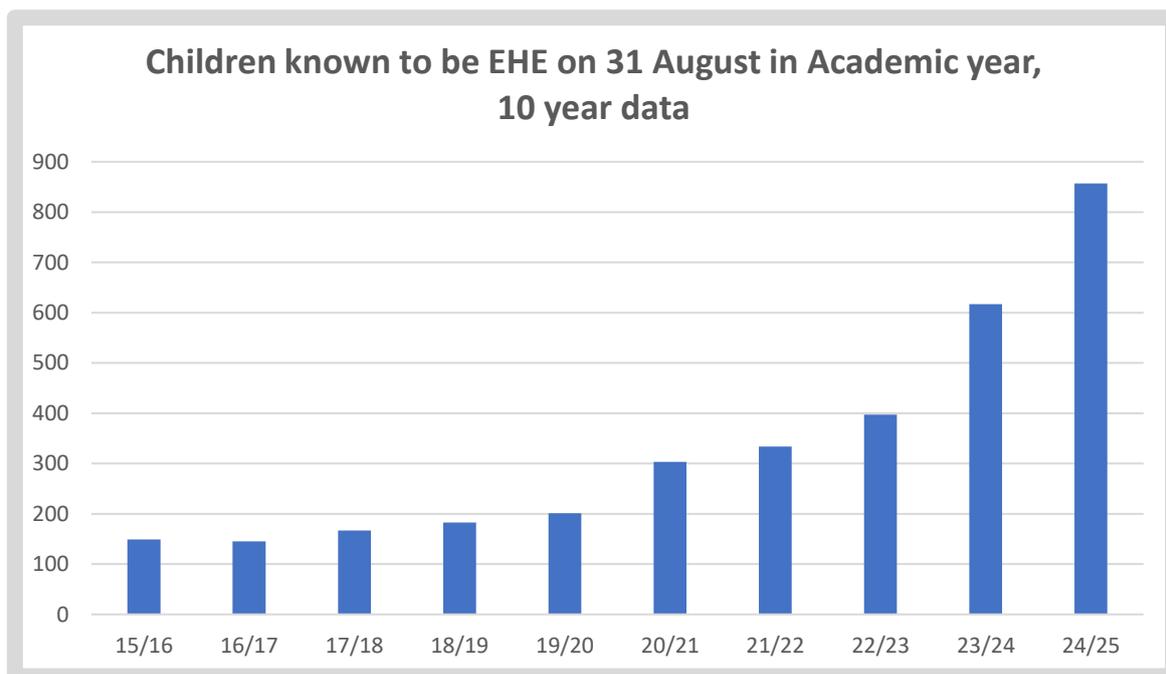


Appendix 2: Elective Home Education Dashboard 2024-25

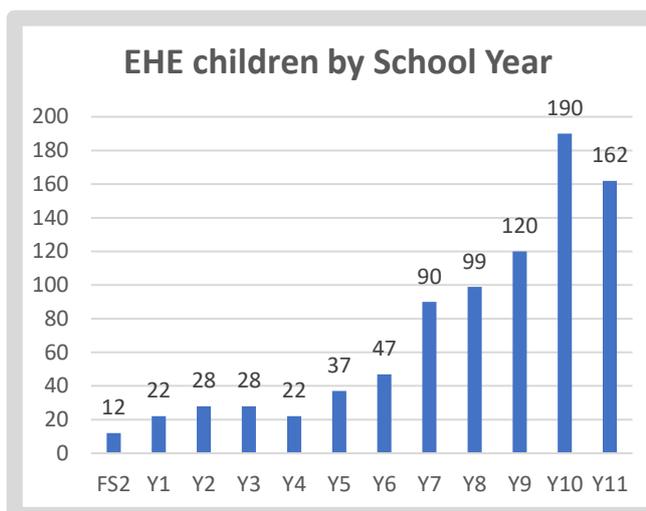
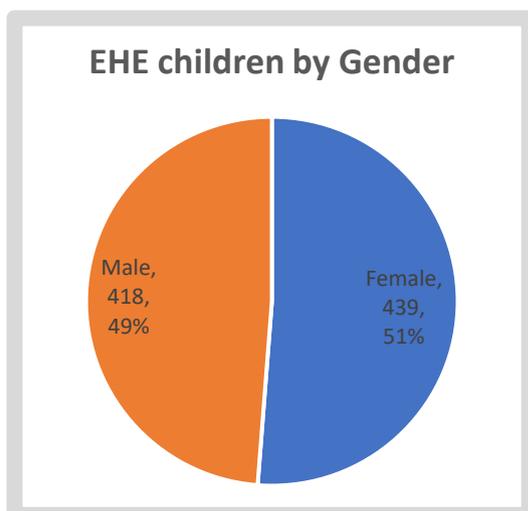
Unless otherwise indicated, data relates to Rotherham Children and Young People (CYP) who were known to be Electively Home Educated (EHE) on 31 August 2025. Although the year 11 children reported on had reached statutory school leaving age by this point, they are still included in the breakdown for completeness as they had been supported by the service during the preceding academic year.



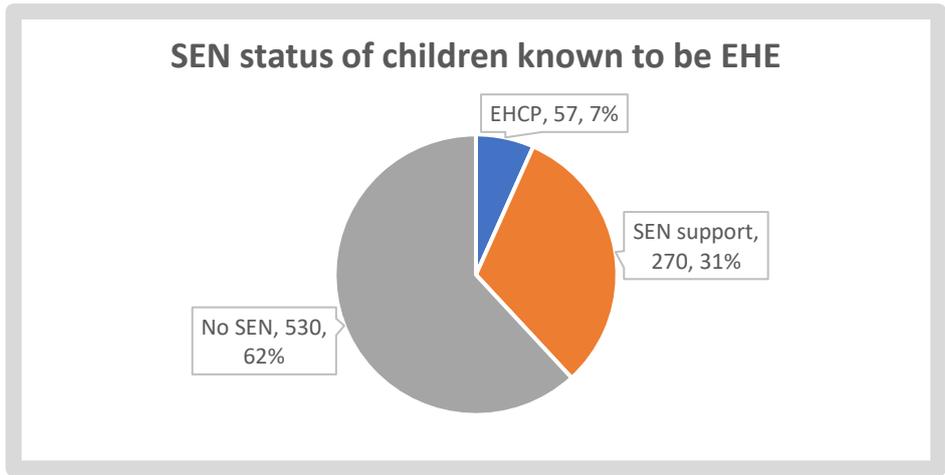
- Following a steady picture, there has been a year-on-year rise in the number of CYP who are known to be EHE over the last 5 years. This is in line with national trending.
- Focus continues to be placed on early intervention by the team to ensure that decisions to EHE are informed, proportionate and in the interests of the child(ren) at the centre of them.

Elective Home Education in Rotherham on 31 August 2025

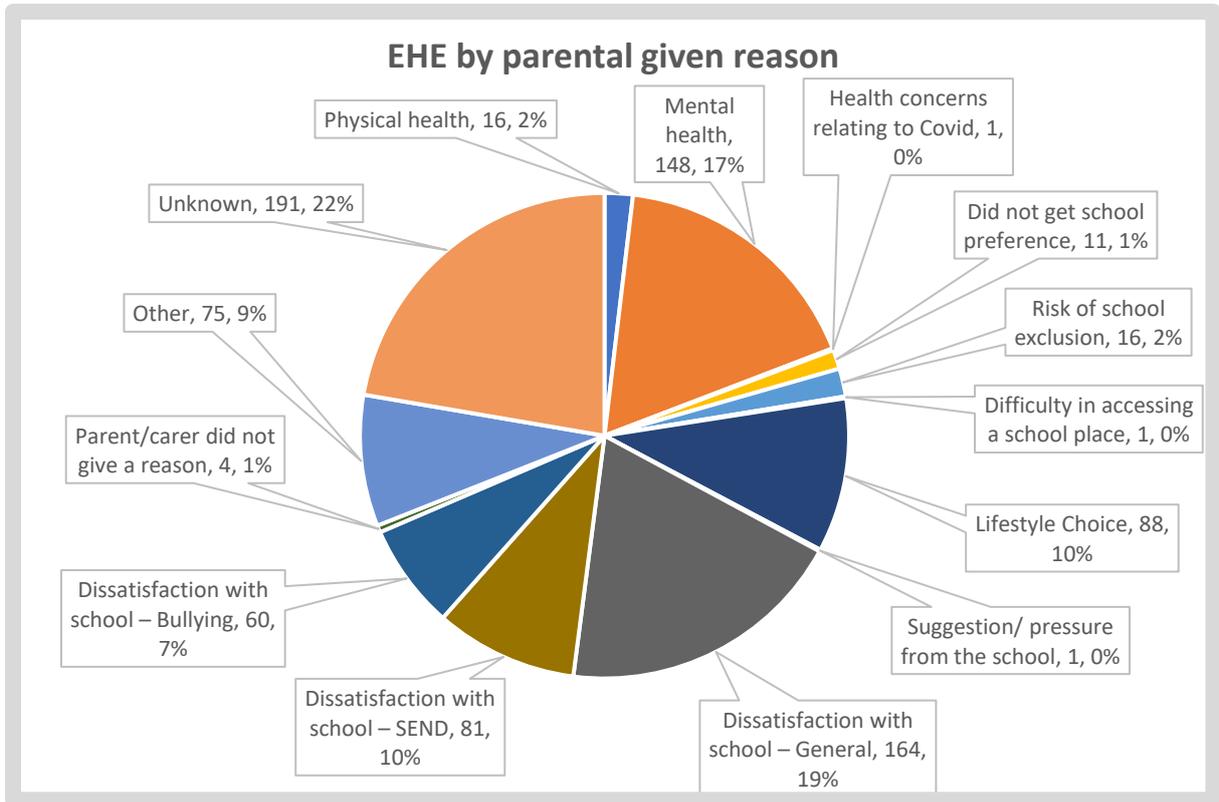
Total children known to be EHE on 31 August	857
Child Protection	2
Child in Need	14
Early Help involvement	34
Total known to be EHE at some point during the academic year	1299



- There is a relatively even split of boys and girls who are EHE in Rotherham.
- EHE numbers rise through primary and into secondary, with a peak at year 10. This is in line with national reported trend. Numbers rise year on year as parents make decisions to withdraw children at different points in their educational journey and they continue to remain EHE. Increasingly parents report that children cannot cope with the emotional demands placed on them as they progress through school, including the rigour of a KS4 curriculum and GCSE study.
- Primary numbers have remained relatively stable in comparison with 2023/24 figures, the increase in the cohort has been predominantly in Secondary.
- There is ongoing work with Secondary Schools to support them around EHE, through training, direct conversation and Locality Partnership Panels.



- The majority of children EHE in Rotherham do not have SEN needs recorded at the point they are deregistered from the school roll. Just over a third are recorded as having SEN needs, and are in receipt of either SEN support or have an EHCP. This mirrors the pattern seen during the previous academic year.



- Significant progress has been made by the EHE team over the past year in recording the reasons for EHE for a greater percentage of the cohort with only 29% reasons other/ unknown compared to 39% in the previous academic year. The descriptors used in Rotherham are in line with those used by the Department for Education in their termly collection.
- This refinement in recording has seen the highest recorded parental reason remain as dissatisfaction with school- general (19%), followed by mental health (17%).
- A slightly greater percentage of parents (10%) are reporting EHE as being a philosophical or lifestyle choice than in the previous year (9%)

Whole year analysis 2024-25



- Most of the service output remains working in a supportive way to ensure that LA statutory duty is discharged in respect of children who are known to be EHE.
- Performance in the area of early intervention remained good and 219 children remained on school roll as a result of intervention from the team- this is typically where a parent indicates to school that they intend to EHE and following a supportive conversation or meeting with a member of the team they go on to decide it isn't the most appropriate pathway for their child. Although this work does not form part of the core LA duty in relation to EHE the experience of the team is that this prevents children becoming EHE and then parents realising quickly that they wish for their child to return to school.
- 130 children (an increase from 82 in 2023/24) returned to school either because parents chose this or because EHE was no longer suitable. Where children return to school support is offered from the EHE team in respect of transition planning.

Statutory intervention following request to return a child to school

Referral to FAP to identify school place (parent has not applied when asked to do so)	51
Referral to LASAP and subsequent School Attendance Order issued	12
School Attendance Order breached	0

- The service always seeks to work in collaboration with parents where it is identified that children may not be in receipt of a suitable education. Where parents are unable to rectify this and decline to apply for a return to school, the EHE team is obliged to follow the Rotherham School Attendance Matters Pathway to ensure that this happens.
- During the academic year 2024-25 there was a further increase (51 in 2024-25, 33 in 2023-24) in the number of referrals made through the FAP pathway when children need to return to school. The team have a robust referral and escalation route where needed and have a mature understanding of when and how to implement it.
- Most parents work collaboratively with the EHE team following the initiation of a statutory pathway, with only twelve referrals to the Local Authority School Attendance Panel required to progress to an SAO.