One minute briefing on Education for professionals working with children in Oxfordshire (not schools)

* Parents are entitled to remove their children from school rolls for the purposes of elective home education (EHE). However, there is no professional oversight, funding or provision to support children and parents when this step is taken. There is also no guarantee that the child can return to the original school if parent cannot cope with the extent of the home educating commitment.
* Children are entitled to a school place within 15 school days of application.
* Children not on a school roll or electively home educated are considered children missing education. All children resident in Oxfordshire are entitled to a full-time education
* Schools cannot suggest that parents remove their children from roll to avoid an exclusion
* Schools cannot refuse to admit children with additional needs and children with one permanent exclusion on their record
* Parents do not have a right to appeal a Penalty Notice for unauthorised absence from school. They have a right of review
* Parents do not have a right to appeal a permanent exclusion from school. They have a right of review. Even if they are successful, schools are not obliged to readmit
* Parents have a right to express a preference for a school, a mainstream or special school if the child has an Education, Health & Care Plan. This is a preference and not a choice
* Grounds to appeal a school place allocation are limited
* Access to funded transport to school is defined by legislation and is not universal
* Parents are not entitled to withdraw their children from school during term time for the purposes of holiday
* Only schools have the right to authorise pupil absence, even medical absence, not parents
* Children medically unfit to attend school for in excess of 15 school days (as determined by a medical consultant) are entitled to alternative education
* Parents are not obliged to agree to reduced hours educational provision, otherwise known as Reintegration Timetables. Reintegration Timetables must be reviewed at least every two weeks and parents must be in agreement at every review. These timetables should only be implemented for a maximum of 6 weeks.
* Parents are not obliged to agree to alternative provision proposed by schools
* Any child who is in employment (voluntary or paid) from the age of 13, they must hold a valid work permit for that role. Are you satisfied that the children you are working with are receiving their full educational entitlement and are those arrangements, particularly elective home education arrangements, appropriate and safe?

Please contact attendance@oxfordshire.gov.uk 01865 323513 with any queries and to report children who are not in receipt of appropriate and full time education