

Overview & Scrutiny

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: Monday, 9 September 2019

Title of report: HLT response to the Children Commissioner's report – Hackney led activity to address off rolling issues

Report author: Andrew Lee, Assistant Director, Education Services

Authorised by: Annie Gammon, Director of Education, Head of Hackney Learning Trust
30 August 2019

Brief:

The Children's Commissioner published a report in February 2019 – 'Skipping School: Invisible Children'

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publication/skipping-school-invisible-children/>

Around 58,000 children are being home educated across England as a whole. The precise figures are unknown because parents do not have to register children who are home-educated, hence councils use various other sources to estimate the numbers.

In addition, concern has been raised about "off-rolling" and its link with EHE.

This term, off-rolling, was not well defined and had previously been used to describe any movement away from a mainstream school.

The Children's Commissioner report made a series of recommendation including:

- i) A home education register
- ii) Strengthened measures to tackle off rolling
- iii) Advice and support for children and families
- iv) Greater oversight of children
- v) Decisive action against unregistered schools

The attached report discusses these issues in more detail, what has been done locally to address them, and what further actions are required.