

Press Release Tuesday November 6th 2007

HOME EDUCATION OTHERWISE LEGAL TO 18

Education Otherwise yesterday welcomed a personal assurance from the Secretary of State, Ed Balls, that home education would continue to be a legal option for young people between the ages of 16 and 18.

Annette Taberner, of Education Otherwise, told a meeting at the Institute of Education in London that there was a poor level of understanding about home education and many barriers and difficulties are faced by parents.

Education Otherwise took an active part in the recent Government consultation on raising the education and training age to 18 and Mrs Taberner said “We are pleased that on this occasion we were able to have an input at an early enough stage to ensure that home education for young people in this age group remaining a legal option.”

Reference for editors

Raising Expectations: Staying In Education and Training Post-16 From Policy To Legislation - P. 8 (Document reference: DCSF 00896-2007BKT- EN)
(<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/14-19/documents/Raising%20Expectations.pdf>)

“3.2 Our aim is that from 2013, all young people will continue to participate in education or training post-16. They will be able to do so in a number of ways, including:

- full-time education, including school, college and home education
- work-based learning, such as an apprenticeship, including traditional contracts of apprenticeship; or
- part time education or training, if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering more than 20 hours a week”.

<http://fabians.org.uk/events/progressivemanifesto-EdBalls-07/report>

“Children, Schools and Families Secretary Ed Balls today set out the building blocks that will underpin Government plans to raise the education participation age to 17 by 2013 and 18 by 2015”

Contacts:

Ann Newstead
EO National Media Contact
0203 002 7702, 07870 115231, thenewstead6@yahoo.co.uk

Annette Taberner
EO Government Policy Group Member
0114 2583502, annettektaberner@hotmail.com

Fiona Nicholson
Chair, EO Government Policy Group
0114-2751142, fiona_j_nicholson@yahoo.co.uk

<http://www.education-otherwise.org/>
<http://www.freedomforchildrentogrow.org/>

end