

## **Standard Data Definitions**

1. The following data definitions have been developed working with several local authorities to help improve consistency of how information is collected about children who are not receiving a suitable education and to improve cross-border transfer of information. **[Please note - in the final version of the guidance, following on from the results of this public consultation these data definitions will be provided in a spreadsheet/workbook.]**
2. The national definition of children who are not receiving a suitable education is as follows:
 

“A compulsory school-age child who is not on the roll of a school, not placed in alternative provision by a local authority, and who is not receiving a suitable education at home”.
3. Suitable education is defined as: “efficient full-time education suitable to his/her age, ability and aptitude and to any special educational needs he/she may have”.
4. Alternative provision is defined as: “educational provision arranged by local authorities or schools, and made off-site by a voluntary or private sector provider or by a Pupil Referral Unit”.
5. The following two sub-sets are suggested, but they are not intended to be an exclusive list:
  - a) Children not on a school roll (including in a General Hospital School, an Academy or City Technology College (CTC) or at an Independent School); nor in local authority care, nor in juvenile custody, nor in immigration removal centres, nor in alternative provision (AP), nor in a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), nor in Further Education (FE). Examples of what this sub-set would include are as follows (N.B. This is not intended to be an exclusive list):
    - New to the country or area and not yet registered at a school;
    - Refusal to accept an offered school place;
    - Refusal to start school;
    - Elective home education that is unsuitable in accordance with Section 7 of the 1996 Education Act;
    - Children of highly mobile families;
    - Lack of understanding/disregard of their parental responsibilities with regard to education;
    - Children caring for parents or siblings;
    - Children living in refuges;
    - Children whose parents are in breach of a School Attendance;
    - Children who should be in alternative provision but are awaiting placements to be made.
  - b) Children who have been on the roll of a school, but have left, destination unknown (both those still on roll of school, and those removed from it), not in AP, not in PRU, not in Independent School, not in FE, not in General Hospital School, not in Academy, not in CTC. Examples of what this sub-set would include are as follows: (N.B. This is not intended to be an exclusive list).
    - Children sent abroad to be with other family;
    - Children believed to have moved location within the UK but destination unknown;
    - Permanently excluded and not placed in other provision from the sixth day of exclusion;
    - Children working illegally, location unknown;
    - Runaways;
    - Children removed from school by parents/carers, alternative provision unknown
    - Illegal or informal exclusion.