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NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board

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OUR FUTURE

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_235_26

You asked:

This request relates to routine use of data where data may have been considered appropriate to share purely because of the families' choices of mode of education, not to individual cases where specific concerns may have been identified.

This request relates to policy and actual practice from 1st January 2024 to present day.

(1) Can you assure confidentiality of access to healthcare for home educating families within your local health board area?

The Health Board complies with the common law duty of Confidence and data protection legislation regardless of whether healthcare is accessed within the community or within a health care setting. All staff are required to undertake training every two years to ensure they are aware of their responsibilities to uphold confidentiality.

(2) Can you assure home educating families that utilise primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare under your health board that their identifying data will not be routinely shared without explicit consent from the parents and/or children involved between your health board and

- a. council education departments?**
- b. school nurse teams?**

Please see the Health Boards privacy notice accessible via the link below which applies to all service users. This outlines when we would share data and individual rights.

[Privacy Policy - Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board](#)

(3) What information does your health board provide for healthcare services in your area about approach to home educating families, including data sharing.

Please see above. There may also be certain information leaflets and consent forms available to the service user depending the areas that they access.

(4) In particular what assurances and information do you provide for healthcare services in your area to clarify that home education is not a safeguarding risk or "red flag" and should not be routinely treated as such.

The Health Board does not treat home education, in and of itself, as a safeguarding risk or "red flag".

Safeguarding concerns are considered on an individual, case-by-case basis, based on presenting information and professional assessment, in line with statutory safeguarding guidance and multi-agency procedures.

As a Health Board, we would not be instructed to regard home education as an inherent indicator of risk, nor to routinely escalate or share information solely on that basis.