

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.164.26

12 May 2026

Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information which was received on 14 April 2026, to confirm, in accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) does hold the information that you require. For ease of reference your request is set out below and the Health Board's response follows each question individually.

Your Freedom of Information (FOI) Request and Powys Response (Bold):

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information:

Q1. Can you assure confidentiality of access to healthcare for home educating families within your local health board area?

Yes. The same confidentiality requirements apply to all patients, regardless of whether a child/young person is home educated or attends school.

Q2. 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? - **No. PTHB does not routinely share identifying information for home educated children/young people with local authority education departments without the explicit permission of the parent/carer (and the child/young person where appropriate).**

b. school nurse teams. - **School Nursing is a Health Board service. Where School Nursing is involved in a child/young person's care, team members may access relevant parts of the health record on a need-to-know basis to provide direct care.**

For information on primary care services, they will need to be contacted directly; contact details can be found on our website: [Primary Care Services - Powys Teaching Health Board](#)

Q3. What information does your health board provide for healthcare services in your area about approach to home educating families, including data sharing.

At the start of each school year, PTHB School Nursing provides a letter to the Local Authority for onward distribution. The letter explains the service available to children/young people who are home educated, how parents/carers can access the service (including contact details), and includes information about data sharing.

Q4. 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.

Home education in itself is not treated as a safeguarding 'red flag'. Children/young people who are home educated are supported and assessed based on their individual health and/or wellbeing needs. Where safeguarding concerns are identified, we follow the All-Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

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.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling or response to your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Should you wish an internal review, please quote the reference number and send your correspondence to the above address.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Address: Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH.

Telephone: 0330 414 6421

Complaints Portal: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Web site: <https://ico.org.uk/>

Re-use of Public Sector Information

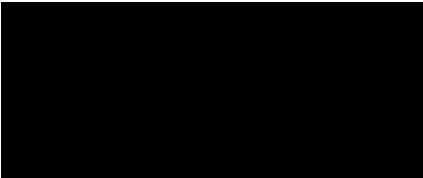
All information supplied by the Health Board in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Health Board will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other

than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however, the Health Board reserves the right, in certain circumstances to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information including a sample license terms and fees can be found at [Open Government Licence](#).

Yours sincerely



Amie Symes
Director of Midwifery, Women and Family

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yng Nghymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb y fath ohebiaeth yng Nghymraeg ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. We will reply to such correspondence in Welsh and this will not lead to a delay.