

PEOPLE (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

DEVON HOSPITALS SHORT STAY SCHOOL

CURRICULUM POLICY

Rationale

The curriculum in the Devon Hospitals Short Stay School consists of both the formal requirements of the National Curriculum and a range of other enrichment activities. The aim is to promote learning and personal development, encouraging pupils to develop skills and knowledge, make progress and to achieve their potential. We recognise the importance of the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

All of our pupils in hospital are sick- some are chronically ill and may have frequent re-admissions, whilst others may be in hospital for a shorter period of time. Therefore the work we do as teachers needs to be seen in this context. As far as possible, we aim to maintain the progress of pupils whilst in hospital and prepare them for the next stage of their education which, in most cases, will be the return to their own school.

We work closely with the multidisciplinary team and, as a result of ongoing discussion, it may be necessary to adapt our curriculum for the benefit of the pupil.

We aim to make sure that the classrooms present a healthy, safe and welcoming environment, where pupils feel able to learn.

We aim to meet our rationale by:

- Making sure that our curriculum in each subject meets the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and that pupils, where at all possible, are following objectives appropriate to their stage of learning at EYFS, KS1, KS2, KS3 or KS4. Provision is personalised.
- Ensuring that when pupils are not able to follow the National Curriculum [or that prescribed by their own school] as a result of their medical condition, we will adapt the work accordingly to ensure that they continue to make progress. We will record work completed, achievement, progress and next steps in the pupils' files.
- Systematically taking account of the pupils' previous progress and achievement through reference to previous notes, liaison with their home

schools/Schools Company Academy Trust, communication with parents/carers and the pupils themselves to ensure that their education continues smoothly.

- Making sure that on discharge we communicate well with our pupils' home schools/Schools Company Academy Trust and parents/carers so that there is a smooth transition when they return to school.

It should be noted that, for some pupils, specific advice from a medical consultant will mean that they are unable to follow National Curriculum objectives during their hospital stay.

Organisation and planning

When pupils are referred to us for school, we will make a plan based on whether we already know the pupil or if this is a new admission.

On a day to day basis, the teacher/s in both sites plan the organisation of the session, ensuring that a balanced curriculum is delivered whilst meeting the primary needs of the learner.

A specific member of the teaching staff will take initial responsibility for a new pupil and coordinate the liaison with the school/medical team although any member of the teaching team may contribute to planning and teaching and also to the preparation of any reports needed by medical staff or for the pupil's return to his or her home school. Progress will be regularly reviewed by all teaching staff.

Curriculum enrichment

Every opportunity is taken to provide the pupils with experiences that enrich the curriculum. We may have workshops in art, ceramics, music, technology or animation from specialists in these areas. We also have regular visits from the hospital chaplaincy service. These opportunities make an excellent contribution to the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

The role of the subject leader

All areas of the curriculum have a lead member of staff whose role is to:

- provide a strategic lead and direction for the subject;
- support and offer advice to colleagues on issues related to the subject;
- monitor pupil progress and achievement in that subject area within our school and through moderation.;
- provide efficient resource management for the subject.
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Each subject leader is accountable for keeping up to date with developments in their subject at both national and local level. Contributions also support the School Development Plan.

Monitoring and review

The Headteacher is responsible for the overview of the curriculum on both sites through scrutiny of pupils' files, formal lesson observations tied in with Performance Management, discussions with pupils and through dialogue with staff.