

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL



Admissions Policy

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Table of Contents

Overriding Principles	3
Mission Statement	3
Equal Opportunities	3
Criteria for Teaching	3
Short-stay Patients	4
School's Approach	4
Discretionary Groups	5

Overriding Principles

The Children's Hospital School at GOS is funded by the Department for Education and must make its resources available primarily for those pupils whom it was set up to serve, i.e. in-patients who are school aged pupils on roll in schools in England & Wales.

Mission Statement

The Children's Hospital School seeks to minimise the interruption and disruption to children & young people's education so that academic progress and an interest in learning will continue, as far as their health permits.

Equal Opportunities

UNICEF state that 'Every child has the right to an education which develops their personality, talents and abilities to the full.' **We believe that the hospital should aim to provide equal access to the curriculum and all the school's facilities for all pupils**, irrespective of gender, ability, ethnicity and social circumstance.

All pupils should be given equal consideration, including those with special needs and non-English speakers. If these pupils require extra support in the schoolroom this must, wherever possible, be brought to the attention of school staff in advance, in order that adequate planning and appropriate resources are made available.

Criteria for Teaching

In all cases there must be an agreement with the parents that they want the child to engage in education and that they will provide information about child's experience of schooling.

Priority is given to inpatients that are:

- Long Stay: 10 school days or more
- Recurring
- Taking exams
- Enrolled in **Reception Class**
- Aged 5-16

We may also teach children from 2 ½ years who have a completed Statement of Special Educational Need.

Short-stay Patients

We may also teach and /or provide resources for short stay pupils, particularly if they are able to leave ward & attend the Schoolroom or Activity Centre

We do not teach

- One-off, day-patients on the wards
- Out-patients, except long stay/recurring pupils previously on school roll
- Children who are not patients of the hospital (e.g. visitors)

School's Approach

All our staff are fully qualified and regularly assessed and monitored to meet outstanding standards. All staff have honorary contracts with the hospital and are fully trained to meet safeguarding and infection control procedures.

Teaching Sessions

Each case will be assessed individually and alongside the ward staff the school will decide if it is appropriate for the child to receive one of the following:

- Daily sessions of up to one hour 1:1
- Twice daily sessions of up to 40 minutes each
- Limited number of 1:1 sessions e.g. twice or three times a week
- Schoolroom group teaching*
- Access to Activity Centre & early years teaching*

*(*child must be able to leave ward and may need to be accompanied by parent depending on medical needs)*

Each session is assessed individually and recorded on our database; individuals are set targets and progress is recorded and evidence stored by each teacher. If possible contact will be made with the 'home school' so we can ensure continuity for the child.

When a pupil is discharged, a written report is given to parents and the home school.

Allocation of Teachers

Each case will be assessed individually and the school leadership team will allocate the appropriate staff according to needs of the child.

Wherever we can the child will have one consistent teacher however if we assess that the child needs specific input from curriculum specialists or staff trained to work with children with special educational needs, they may work with more than one family.

ICT

Please see the school's policy* on access to our wireless network which should be adhered to at all times and follows e-safety guidelines to protect pupils on our school roll.

The school has its own technical team who will support any equipment allocated by the school or adapted to use our network.

Discretionary Groups

Siblings, patients in hospital organised accommodation, regular out-patients, special referrals are considered on an individual basis according to the Overriding Principles.

Siblings

The School may admit siblings of long-stay patients, pupils occupying hospital accommodation, regular/ recurring outpatients or special referrals from the Local Authority who:

- are unable to attend and missing their home school
- are likely to attend regularly for two weeks or more.
- can be taught in the schoolroom in a group.

There is no statutory obligation for the Hospital School to admit pupils in this discretionary group and a place cannot be guaranteed. Siblings/ patients in hospital accommodation / regular out-patients must have the permission of the Headteacher or an Assistant Headteacher, before being entered on roll.

If the number of siblings overwhelms the number of inpatients on roll in the schoolroom, admission will be refused or deferred. **Siblings will be expected to seek local school entry after two/ three weeks on our roll, if their anticipated stay becomes extended.**

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at Great
Ormond Street
and
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