

BETHLEM & MAUDSLEY HOSPITAL SCHOOL

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Information Report

Vision / Mission

The Bethlem and Maudsley Hospital School is committed to providing an appropriate and high quality education to all the learners who are patients of the Bethlem and Maudsley Hospital. We believe that all learners, including those identified with special educational needs, have a common entitlement to a broad and balanced academic and social curriculum which is accessible to them and to be fully included in all aspects of school life.

Whole School / Setting Approaches

Information on policies, people and statutory guidance

The school discharges its statutory duties as laid out in the **Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years** (June 2015) in the following ways:

- We ensure the policy is implemented effectively across the school.
- We continually monitor the impact of this policy on the progress made by individual learners and groups of learners.
- We ensure that we are able to meet the needs of as wide a range as possible of learners who come to the hospital.
- We liaise closely with parents and carers, local authorities, outside agencies and medical professionals.

Context Statement

The school works with young people receiving treatment at the Bethlem and Maudsley hospitals.

For most schools the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Information Report describes what the school can do for pupils and their parents in the local area. However, hospital schools serve local, regional and national patients. All our pupils come via medical referral and not via direct application by parents. When you look at information in this report, it is likely to be because your child is coming to our school because they have been referred through the NHS.¹

¹ As pupils are NHS-referred to our school, we do not appear in our Local Authority's 'local offer'.

Types of SEN, disability and medical needs and how the school supports

The school works with pupils with any special educational or medical needs. We work with a very broad range of abilities. Each pupil has a `key teacher` who:

- coordinates educational delivery within the school, sets educational targets with and for the pupil;
- liaises with the wider multi-disciplinary team both within and outside the hospital;
- explores with the pupil the best route towards re-integration and progression;
- brings in our independent careers advisor, as and when appropriate.

Approaches to extra-curricular activities and pastoral care

We aim to provide experiences that acknowledge the difficulties that each child is facing but which are both educationally challenging and enjoyable. These activities can consist of people coming into the school, for example:

- `animal man` - who brings a collection of wild life including a meerkat, skunk, giant snake, spiders, etc
- the London Symphony Orchestra
- the Wallace Collection
- `owl man`
- City of London Sinfonia

For those pupils able to go out, examples of what we offer include:

- horse riding
- visits to the theatre
- swimming

Approaches to teaching and learning

On first coming to the school each pupil is given an initial assessment, which helps us to find out:

- academic areas that they may need to strengthen in order to go back into their own school successfully;
- an idea of what they value and enjoy most at school.

From this assessment will come a personalised offer that balances the broader curriculum with the individual needs of the pupil. These needs are expected to change quite rapidly as we work alongside the hospital, which addresses any illness and builds the child's healthy capacity.

We work in small groups that often have a mixture of ages, as is common place in hospital wards. We have good IT facilities, including e-safety monitoring and education.

We have experienced and skilled teaching assistants and higher level teaching assistants, who facilitate learning alongside the subject specialist teachers. Wherever the child is capable, we try to follow the home school curriculum in order to maximise successful reintegration when ready. We monitor each child's progress and share information with the hospital team and the parents, as well as with the child.

Staff at the school offer a wide range of subject specialisms and experience. Working alongside a highly specialised multi-disciplinary team, it can be the case that pupils discover a previously unrecognised health or learning need that would benefit from further assessment or consideration for an Education and Health Plan. We work closely with the child, parent and home local authority, who should take such a Plan forward, and we share information in order that those with future responsibility will have as much information as is needed.

Funding and resources

The school is funded by the ESFA (Education and Skills Funding Agency) with the money coming through the local authority which, in our case, is Southwark. The hospital is funded at a national level through a `top slice` which acknowledges the special status that our pupils have in arriving via a medical referral from across the country. With a constantly changing pupil population; pupils stay on average for the equivalent of a term. We apply funding to meet the current and changing needs of our pupil population.

Summary

The school provides education for pupils who are referred to the hospital by doctors, both locally and from any part of the country. We work with any child with any level of need and ability. We aim to focus teaching at a level that provides both challenge and the opportunities of success for each pupil. We know that we have done a good job for a child when they are either returning to their original school or are moving on to one which is better suited to meet their needs.

Any queries can be made through the [contact information](#) on the school website.

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