



Hospital and Home Tuition Service

Information for Schools



SUMMARY

Children who are absent from school through prolonged ill-health will cover all age ranges and sectors of educational provision.

SERVICE	REFERRALS	PROVISION
<p>Hospital & Home Tuition Service</p> <p>Children absent from school through ill health for verifiable medical reasons.</p>	<p>Sources of referrals for education outwith school include the child's own school, parents, educational psychologists, health services, GPs and social work.</p> <p>For children in hospital the referral usually comes directly from medical staff.</p> <p>Arrangements should come into effect after 15 days of continuous absence or 20 days of intermittent absence or if it is known at the outset that the likely absence will extend to or beyond this.</p> <p>Referral forms are available in schools and should be sent to EdPsychServ@aberdeencity.gov.uk.</p>	<p>Referrals may be discussed with the Community Child Paediatrician to assess an individual's needs.</p> <p>Special arrangements for education may be undertaken by the child's own school or the Hospital and Home Tuition Service or by a combination of both. The usual allocation is between 3 to 7 hours weekly.</p>

Hospital and Home Tuition Service

The Hospital and Home Tuition Service is an education service, based in the Children's Hospital that provides educational support to children and young people of school age whose education has been interrupted for a time.

Although their individual circumstances may vary widely, they all run the risk of a loss in self-confidence and a reduction in educational achievement because their normal schooling has been disrupted.

The overall aim of the Hospital and Home Tuition Service is to provide equality of opportunity for all pupils and in particular:

- To provide continuity and progression in learning through access to the relevant curriculum.
- To enable pupils to re-integrate back into education.

To achieve these aims we work in partnership with children, young people, their parents/carers, education and medical staff and other concerned agencies. All referrals are treated in confidence and our involvement is usually short-term.

Children who are absent through prolonged ill-health

For children and young people whose absence is more than 15 consecutive days or 20 days of intermittent absence, for verifiable medical reasons, special arrangements should be made for education outwith school.

Arrangements and management of education outwith school may lie with the child's own school or the Hospital and Home Tuition Service or a combination of both. Key contacts should have adequate time for liaison.

The main sources of referrals for education outwith school may be the child's own school, parents, health services, GPs and social work. A referral form (attached) should be completed and emailed to EdPsychServ@aberdeencity.gov.uk to be considered by the SEBN Committee, which meets fortnightly. Informal enquiries may be made to the Acting Head Teacher of the Hospital and Home Tuition Service, tel. 01224 550317, email to MoiFraser@aberdeencity.gov.uk.

Children who are admitted to hospital

Children and young people, whose absence from school is likely to extend beyond 15 days are eligible for tuition in hospital. Teaching normally begins 5 working days following admission, provided the child's state of health makes this desirable. In the case of recurrent admissions, teaching should re-commence without undue delay.

A teacher from the hospital service liaises initially with parents/carers and then with the child's school to ensure that relevant information and appropriate resources are available to meet a child's individual educational needs.

A reintegration plan may be required to facilitate a pupil's return to school. This may include a period of home tuition or additional support in school.

Referrals generally come from medical staff when a child is admitted to hospital. Schools should advise the service of a pupil's likely admission to hospital if this information is available in advance and parents/carers consent to it being passed on.

(Reference: SEED Guidance on Education of Children Absent From School Through Ill-Health 2001)