ASHLEY COLLEGE

ADMISSIONS AND REFERRALS POLICY

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Version:	Final
Status:	Active

Admissions and Referrals

Who is eligible for Ashley College?

Students of statutory school age (5-16 years old) who live in Brent, and who are, or expect to be, absent from school for health reasons for 15 days or more (these may be non-consecutive) in an academic year due to their diagnosed health condition.

What kind of health needs?

We support pupils with health needs that include:

- physical illness or injuries
- significant, complex mental health needs preventing them from accessing mainstream school curriculum; these can include:
    - low mood (general pervasive unhappiness) adversely affecting social and emotional functioning / clinical depression
    - anxiety symptoms such as intense, specific fears or school phobia, obsessive-compulsive behaviours, difficulties separating from parents, panic attacks – often also manifesting in social isolation or physical symptoms
    - experience of trauma (e.g. sexual or physical abuse, domestic violence, medical trauma, accident, act of terrorism, war, natural and human-made disaster, suicide, and other traumatic losses) resulting in severe, persistent social and emotional difficulties
    - high risk of harm to self or others due to emotional or social communication difficulties

What does Ashley College offer?

Most of our students are dual-registered with their home school and Ashley College.

We provide a broad and balanced curriculum from Key Stage 1 – Key Stage 4 with a full range of accredited examinations (GCSE etc.) as well as a therapeutic curriculum. We teach up to 20 students, at any one time, in small groups in our centre, or, where students are unable to leave home, via home tuition or online learning. Each student has a personal learning plan designed for their individual needs, which may include days or part days at their main school placement.

Placements with Ashley College may be short or long term according to need. Schools from which our students arrive are required to review regularly whether or not it remains appropriate that the student concerned continues with alternative provision at Ashley College. Our aim is to return students to mainstream education and on transition we negotiate a reintegration plan for each student.

Who can make a referral?

Access to Ashley College is via the Inclusion Support Referral panel. Referrals can be made by:

- student's mainstream school
- Head of Inclusion & Alternative Education Service
- School admissions
- Education Welfare Service
- Social services
- Looked After Children team
- Family Solutions
- CAMHS

Who needs to support the referral?

At least one of the following medical professionals should support the referral:

- Medical Consultant
- Child or Adolescent psychiatrist
- Senior Medical Clinical Officer
- Child and Family Therapy Service
- Educational Psychologist
- CAMHS professional

What information do we need?

We need a completed referral form supported by:

- evidence from a relevant professional (see list above) of the impact health needs have on the student's ability to access education in mainstream school
- as much information as possible on current attainment levels in English, Maths and Science, with recent attendance data

What's the procedure?

- complete a referral form as fully as possible This can be downloaded from our website under the referrals section in About Us
- send the completed form to healthneedspanelEPS@brent.gov.uk
- the referral will be considered at a weekly meeting of the Brent Inclusion Support Referrals Panel (ISR)
- the Brent ISR Panel will decide if the student will benefit from what we offer at Ashley College or if the young person would be better supported elsewhere
- If the referral is accepted by Ashley College we will liaise with parents/carers, those who referred the student, and relevant agencies to make suitable arrangements for the student.

Useful links

Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school – (www.gov.uk)

Brent Health Needs - Brent Policy for Supporting the Education of Children with Medical Needs September 2023