



BRIGHTON AND HOVE CLINIC SCHOOL ADMISSIONS AND EXCLUSION POLICY

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Ratified by: **SHEETAL SHAH**

CHAIR OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Brighton and Hove Clinic School is committed to promoting equality in all its activities. We aim to provide an environment free from discrimination and unfair treatment.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Human Rights Act 1998
- School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2023) 'School Admission Appeals Code'
- The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Positive Behaviour Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy

Context

Brighton and Hove Clinic School is a small hospital school located on the same site as Brighton and Hove Clinic, an inpatient eating disorder service for sixteen young people aged 11 -18. Most young people will be admitted to the hospital under the relevant section of the Mental Health Act.

Young people are admitted and discharged to the clinic throughout the year, and the anticipated length of stay is around 16 to 20 weeks, however, this is dependent on each person's presentation and some admissions have lasted over a year.

Whilst students at the school have a primary diagnosis of an eating disorder or eating difficulty, most also have other mental health or psychological issues such as depression, OCD, anxiety or self-harm. Students may also have been out of education for a considerable amount of time and might find entering back into a school environment challenging.

The school works collaboratively with all members of the hospital's Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) which includes Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, a Dietician, Social Worker and the Nursing team. Therefore, our school ethos centres on personalisation and an integrated approach to a student's care, treatment, and academic needs. First and foremost, all students are admitted by NHS England in order to receive treatment in a hospital setting. However, the school is the largest provider of meaningful activity and operates a full-time programme of study as part of the hospital's care and treatment programme.

Whilst attending our school, most students also maintain their place on roll at their home school, and we work closely with them so that students continue to study their chosen subjects.

The school also plays a major part in supporting the successful discharge of students to either their home school or a new education provider and we support parents and home schools in applying for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP), where required.

In order to fulfil our NHS contractual details, the school is registered with the Department of Education as an Independent School, regulated by Ofsted. The school has its own dedicated facilities and resources in a building that is a part of the hospital. The school is led by the Headteacher and is supported by a Deputy Headteacher and the education team. The school is governed by a Management Committee which holds the school to account, similar to that of a traditional school governing body.

Admissions

All students who are patients at the hospital can receive education from the school by agreement from their home Local Authority who fund the school place and maintain responsibility for the education of every student, even if they are temporarily living out of area. Alternative arrangements may be made by the Local Authority (LA) to continue a student's education if they decide not to commission the services provided by our on-site school.

An Admissions Register and a Record of Attendance will be kept in line with DfE guidelines for all students. Students will only be entered onto the admissions register with the agreement of the hospital's Responsible Clinician who deems the student to be medically able to access our provision. It is also acknowledged that a student's mental health may fluctuate throughout their admission to hospital, and this may affect their continuing provision of education at the on-site school.

We reserve the right to remove a student from the admissions register if in consultation with the Responsible Clinician, it is not in the student's best interests to receive education at points during their care and treatment within the hospital.

Provision

The curriculum at Brighton and Hove Clinic School aims to meet the needs of every individual by providing a personalised programme that mirrors the curriculum of each student's home-school or college. This means that any disruptions to education are minimised, and students are provided with a continuity that enables a smooth transition back into education once discharged.

Most students are registered at both Brighton and Hove Clinic School and at their home-school or college which means that the majority of the curriculum at Brighton and Hove Clinic School is determined by what syllabus and subjects students are studying. Students who are not on roll at a home-school or college follow a personalised curriculum based on their age and key stage, attainment, and interests.

Students attend school from the ward area when they are well enough to do so, and effective communication between hospital and school staff ensures that the transition is smooth. As a result, students benefit from the same structure and routine that they would receive at their home-school.

High Expectations

The school aims to promote and acknowledge a positive learning ethos and environment through our high expectations. These will be discussed and agreed with stakeholders including students and permeate throughout the school's culture and ethos.

Code of Behaviour

During induction, all students read and agree to our ICT Acceptable Use Policy and our student expectations. These expectations and any consequences are discussed with the student to ensure they understand what they agree to. Students are also issued with a copy of the signed agreement as a reminder of what they have agreed to. General classroom expectations are displayed clearly around the school as an extra reminder.

In the light of our school ethos, every effort will be made to discuss and resolve difficulties by understanding and working out strategies without imposing sanctions. However, when necessary, the school will work in partnership with all stakeholders to implement sanctions for unacceptable behaviour.

There is a clear procedure for staff follow should behaviour become of concern in school. This provides consistency in our approach and a transparent framework for all to work within. Please refer to the school's Positive Behaviour Policy for more information.

Exclusions

Brighton and Hove Clinic School will endeavour not to permanently exclude any student from its provision. However, it is recognised that in some extenuating circumstances, permanent exclusion may be the only course of action left to the school. An internal review will be conducted following any permanent exclusion to determine any lessons learnt.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Management Committee and the Headteacher.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff and relevant stakeholders.