

Threshold & Referral criteria for referral to Hospital Education & Re-integration Service (HERS) from CAMHS & Paediatricians

1. LA responsibilities for children medically unfit for school

1.1 The Local Authority is responsible for arranging education for pupils medically unfit to attend their registered school, college or other educational provider. B&NES policy is available here and is in line with guidance offered by the DFE

Education for C&YP who cannot attend School because of medical health needs Bathnes

1.2 This threshold guidance is supplementary information for schools, CAMHS & paediatricians, professionals and parents and carers to enable them to understand in more detail how the service is accessed and who the service is for. It should be read in conjunction with the local and national guidance.

1.3 Education will only be arranged for children who are not able to attend their education provision at all due to a diagnosed medical condition and only for the duration of that medical condition.

1.4 This means HERS will not supplement education for children who are attending their school, college or other registered educational provider on a part time basis due to ill health; we would expect the school to supply this provision until the pupil can return full time.

1.5 HERS will provide re-integration support when the CYP is medically ready to return to school. This will be provided for an agreed period until the school resumes full responsibility for the pupil's education and will be based on medical advice. As soon as a child or young person is attending school for 50% of the time, the school then takes over responsibility for future reintegration.

1.6 Education provided by HERS could take the form of 1-1 tutoring, small group teaching & on-line learning. We will provide as much education as medically advised by the child/young person's medical professional.

2. Making a referral

2.1 All referrals will be assessed by the Local Authorities Single Point of Entry Panel for Alternative Education Learning Provision.

2.2 All referrals must be fully completed by the registered school, college or other educational provider and be accompanied by the HERS medical form completed by an authorised clinician/paediatrician. For reasons of poor physical health the medical

opinion must come from a paediatrician, for children with a social, emotional, mental health difficulties, this must be completed a CAMHS care coordinator.

3. Information for medical practitioners

3.1 The HERS medical form with all information sections must be completed, including capacity and amount of education required & details of why illness prevents them from engaging with education. This should be returned to the school, academy or other registered educational provider.

3.2 Incomplete or poorly completed referral forms will not be accepted by the Single Point of Entry Panel.

4. Information for Schools, Colleges, Registered Education Providers

4.1 Once you have received information from the medical professional, please fully complete the HERS referral form/single point of entry form and submit to the Alternative Education Provision Panel, ensuring that you have completed all relevant sections. Please be clear about the steps you have taken to provide education.

5. Best practice & joint working with children young people medically unfit for school

5.1 We will, unless advised otherwise, deem that HERS support is a temporary measure until a pupil is able to return to their registered school, or educational provider. All HERS provision will start from the premise of re-integration at a medically guided pace. A reintegration plan will be drawn up at the start of the provision which clearly outlines roles and responsibilities of all parties.

5.2 Many pupils do return successfully to education and HERS will work collaboratively with schools, academies, parents and carers and children and young people alongside clinicians/paediatricians to ensure this happens. Support from medical professionals, clinicians, GPs is vital to enable reintegration.

5.3 We would expect schools to arrange with medical professionals in attendance regular review meetings (new termly) involving HERS staff, where regular updates on a CYPs medical progress can be reviewed. If a CYP does not appear to be making progress school could consider requesting an EHCP as long as the CYP meets the thresholds.

6. Length of support

6.1 HERS will close after 3 months unless another formal clinical/medical opinion is provided to state that a pupil will continue to need HERS support. Please also see important information at the end of this protocol. (We will look to set up regular review meetings for the relevant young person)

7. Important Information for parents/carers, CAMHS staff and medical professionals.

7.1 If CAMHS/paediatrician discharges the case/support to a child/young person or there is not engagement with a CAMHS/paediatrician and the case subsequently closes, we will not be able to provide further support via the Hospital Education & Re-integration Service. We will deem that the child/young person will be returning to school. The medical professional must inform HERS when they close a case.

A very small minority of children will be discharged from CAMHS with ongoing mental health needs. The medical responsibility for these will pass to their GP and we will, at this point, make our recommendations clear about whether ongoing HERS is indicated. The reviewing and monitoring will be the responsibility of the GP. The GP will be expected to review every 6 weeks in line with the policy.

8. Referrals for pupils who are in their final year of statutory education

8.1 For CYP who are in year 11, referrals received after the last working day in February will only be allocated in exceptional circumstances and will be subject to availability of teaching staff.

Date for Review: February 2018