



## Northamptonshire County Council

Please ask for: Cath Kitchen  
Tel: 01604 662250  
Our ref:  
Your ref:  
Date:

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to welcome you and your child to the Northamptonshire educational support provision Hospital and Outreach Education.

Hospital and Outreach Education is a place of learning, and all of the children and young people admitted for support have to have an intention to return to school or an alternative learning provider. Your support in this process is key, and we will be involving you and your child in all the decisions we make concerning your child's education.

I hope you find the information in this handbook useful and helpful, as it is designed to ensure that we can work together to get the best outcomes for your child. There is more information about our policies and activities on our website, [www.nhoe.org.uk](http://www.nhoe.org.uk) if you would like to read more.

As well as teaching sessions for your child, we also run parent groups called 'Parent Time'. The Family Liaison Worker will be able to give you more information and dates for the meetings.

If you have any comments you would like to make, please feel free to contact me on the numbers below.

I wish your child every success during their time with us.

Yours faithfully

Cath Kitchen  
Headteacher  
Hospital and Outreach Education

## HOME – PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT AGREEMENT

This gives you details of what you can expect from us, and what we will be expecting from you and your child during your educational support period with HOE

As a Pupil Referral Unit, the staff and visitors will do their best to:

- Provide a safe, well ordered and caring environment
- Provide high quality teaching and a variety of enrichment activities
- Be proactive in providing equal opportunities
- Seek to create, by our actions and policies, a climate in which all members of the PRU community treat one another with respect and courtesy
- Encourage your child to work to the best of their ability
- Provide a balanced and challenging curriculum which meets their needs
- Listen to, and respond quickly to, any concerns that you or they may have
- Contact you promptly should a problem arise
- Keep you informed about events within the PRU
- Provide you with regular reports and meetings on their progress
- Encourage pupils to attend regularly and punctually
- Record and reward good performance and progress
- Value and respect your child as an individual
- Have a clearly stated, published positive behaviour policy

Signed: (Headteacher on behalf of all staff)

Date:

As a Management Committee of the Pupil Referral Unit, we will do our best to:

- Operate on the basis of collective responsibility, in the interests of all pupils in the PRU
- Work constructively with PRU leadership and staff in seeking to monitor and maintain standards and to promote improvement
- Seek financial efficiency and value for money
- Draw up and publish a full set of policies
- Consult with and report to parents and carers
- Ensure compliance with statutory regulations, including health and safety
- Monitor and review all aspects of the PRUs work

Signed: (Chair of Management Committee)

Date:

As parents/carers, we will do our best to:

- Ensure that my child is ready for teaching if taught at home or an alternative venue
- Arrange for a responsible adult to be present and available in the home if your child is taught at home
- Ensure that your child is appropriately dressed
- Ensure that your child has all the necessary equipment that they need
- Take an interest in their education by encouraging them to complete their home learning
- Keep the PRU informed about any problems that might affect your child's learning
- Inform the PRU of any medication that your child is taking that may need administration during the day, and any changes to that medication
- Attend 6 weekly review meetings
- Take your child to all arranged medical appointments, preferably out of teaching hours
- Support the PRU and its policies as much as possible
- Read all communication from the PRU and respond promptly as appropriate
- Encourage your child to have a positive attitude to learning, attending and engaging with education
- Encourage your child to do their best

**AGREEMENT FOR OUTREACH TEACHING**

When your child engages with their outreach teaching, there are certain boundaries we ask you to read and agree to in order to ensure that your child is able to make the best use of the educational provision being offered through HOE. These are listed below:

- I agree that there will be another adult in the house for the duration of the teaching session
- I agree to my child taking part in appropriate educational activities under the supervision of HOE staff
- I consent to the educational staff contacting my child's school or other professionals as may be necessary in connection with the education provision
- I agree to my child attending educational sessions at an alternative learning venue as appropriate (e.g. a library, museum, a HOE base etc)
- I agree to my child participating in educational visits related to work studied
- I give my permission for my child to travel in staff cars (appropriate documentation is available if required)
- I give my consent for my child to have his/her photograph taken to be used by them as evidence of their work
- I agree to take responsibility for my child's behaviour while participating in HOE educational provision
- I agree that my child and the adult in the house will be appropriately dressed

**Please delete optional statements that you do not wish to abide by:**

- I agree to my child's photograph to be used in displays
- I agree to my child's photography being used on the HOE website
- I am willing to be contacted by Ofsted in case of an inspection

## **ATTENDANCE**

In order for your child to reach their educational potential, and re-engage with their learning, attendance at agreed sessions is essential. Attendance targets will be set at each review meeting, according to each pupil's negotiated timetable and the impact of their medical/mental health conditions. The expectation is that this target will be met during the period up to the next review. Attendance will be calculated and reported on at each review.

If your son/daughter is unable to engage or access their individual teaching session, it is important that you telephone the Attendance Officer, Sarah-Jayne, as soon as you know either by calling **01604 662250** or **07894 885687**: you can also text this number. If we do not receive a call from you, our Attendance Officer will telephone you to ascertain why your child has not attended. This is part of our safeguarding procedures.

You must also notify the Outreach Teacher who is teaching that session as soon as possible, giving at least one hour's notice if your son/daughter is too ill.

If you are reporting a continued absence or if your child has 10 school days of absence due to a medical reason, you may be asked to provide a doctor's note in addition to the medical advice provided at the outset of the support. Absence for other reasons must be discussed with the Core Teacher or Leader of Learning as appropriate.

It is important that you keep us informed of your child's whereabouts during the school day if they are not attending so we know that they are safe.

We request that you do not take your child on holiday during term time as continuity of support and teaching is important. You could incur a £60 fine.

If your child has three consecutive unauthorised absences then the Attendance Officer at your child's home school will be informed and a review meeting convened to discuss if HOE is the most appropriate provision to meet your child's educational needs.

**As consistent attendance is necessary in order to maximise the learning and re engagement opportunities for pupils, if there is no satisfactory reason given for absence it may be necessary for Hospital and Outreach Education to withdraw support until the situation can be discussed at the next review.**

## **ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY AGREEMENT FOR THE USE OF THE INTERNET AND OTHER ELECTRONIC MEDIA**

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within and outside of their educational setting. The internet and other digital information and communications technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. Young people should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times.

This Acceptable Use Policy is intended to ensure:

- that young people will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
- that HOE ICT systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
- that parents and carers are aware of the importance of e-safety and are involved in the education and guidance of young people with regard to their on-line behaviour.

HOE will try to ensure that pupils will have good access to ICT to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect the pupils to agree to be responsible users. A copy of the Pupil Acceptable Use Policy is contained within the pupil handbook and we would advise you to read that so you are aware of HOE expectations of your child.

By signing the form at the end of this booklet, you are showing your support of HOE in this important aspect of the school's work and give permission for your child to have access to the internet and to ICT systems in HOE settings.

HOE will ask your child to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement and they will receive e-safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of ICT – both in and out of education.

HOE will take every reasonable precaution, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that your child will be safe when they use the internet and ICT systems. However, HOE cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet and using mobile technologies.

HOE will monitor your child's activity on the ICT systems. HOE staff will contact you if they have concerns about any possible breaches of the Acceptable Use Policy.

We ask that you encourage your child to adopt safe use of the internet and digital technologies at HOE and at home and please inform us if you have any concerns over your child's e-safety.

### **Use of Digital/Video Images**

The use of digital / video images plays an important part in learning activities. Students / Pupils and members of staff may use digital cameras to record evidence of activities in lessons and out of school. These images may then be used in presentations in subsequent lessons.

Images may also be used to celebrate success through their publication in newsletters, on the school website and occasionally in the public media, HOE will comply with the Data Protection Act and request your permission before taking images of your child. We will also ensure that when images are published that your child can not be identified by the use of their names.

By signing the agreement at the end of this handbook you are allowing the PRU to take and use images of your children.

## **USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT**

Mobile phones and other electronic devices e.g. iPods, are not normally permitted to be used during teaching sessions. Your child will be asked to leave them in a safe place out of view, not in a pocket of their clothing.

This ruling has been put in place to ensure that they are enabled to concentrate and make the best of their teaching sessions and to protect the confidentiality of your child and HOE staff.

Mobile phones and other electronic devices may be used in some lessons for educational purposes but this will be supervised and directed by teaching staff.

## **HOSPITAL AND OUTREACH EDUCATION STATUTORY POLICIES**

The statutory policies which we are required to share with you are available on our website <http://www.nhoe.org.uk/policies.html> Please ask if you would like paper copies of these policies and please feel free to contact us about any of the content.

## **PARENT TIME MEETINGS**

Having a child who cannot attend mainstream school can be a very isolating experience for parents and carers. We recognise this, and think that creating opportunities to meet with other parents and carers in the same situation as yourself is helpful. They may even have some suggestions that we haven't thought of, but they have found works for their child!

Parent Time meetings are held approximately every 6 weeks at the outreach bases. You, the parents, tell us what topics you would like to discuss, and any external speakers you would like to hear from. The meetings are organised by the Family Liaison Worker and we can support you with transport if you are unable to travel independently.

The Family Liaison Worker will telephone you to let you know when the meetings are and dates are published on the parent section of the website - <http://www.nhoe.org.uk/parents-page.html>

Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided!

You can also find copies of the Parents Newsletters which are published 12 weekly.

### OTHER USEFUL WEBSITES AND INFORMATION

[www.asknormen.co.uk](http://www.asknormen.co.uk) – Northamptonshire website about young people’s mental health conditions

[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk) – National charity specifically for children and young people’s mental health. Have a good parent support line

**N.P.P.S.** 01604 636111 – Northamptonshire Parent Partnership – advocates for parents of young people with additional needs

**Family Lives** offers a confidential and free\* helpline service. You can call them on **0808 800 2222** for information, advice, guidance and support on any aspect of parenting and family life, including bullying. Family Lives free helpline support staff take calls from 7am – midnight, any calls during the night are answered by Samaritans. If you need to speak to someone during the night they divert calls to the Samaritans who are available to offer emotional support.

### POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

**Behaviour for learning is:**

**Respect:** for yourself, others and the environment.

**Responsibility:** at all times within HOE and within the wider community.

**Commitment:** Arrive on time, prepared for learning.

**Effort:** Always do the best you can.

**Involvement:** Play a positive role in the life of HOE and the community.

Provision of education from HOE PRU is based on respect for all individuals. Respect will be shown to all pupils and parents/carers by staff and visitors and there is an expectation that pupils and parents/carers will treat staff in the same manner. Self respect fosters positive behaviour for learning.

Personal styles of behaviour are taken into account and strategies are taught through mediation so that any unnecessary confrontation can be better avoided in the future.

The information below ensures that we are all clear on expectations and consequences of unacceptable behaviour.

### **The Step Approach**

In the event that your child behaves in a way that is not acceptable, the following step approach will be followed:

**Step 1:** discussion with the pupil about why behaviour is not acceptable or conducive to learning. Remind them of their agreement in the pupil handbook when they started at HOE. Parent/carer will be phoned to inform them of the actions.

**Step 2:** if step 1 approach was unsuccessful, and monitoring shows no signs of improvement in behaviour for learning, parent/carer and pupil will be called to a meeting to discuss the future of HOE support. Further strategies to support the pupil in managing their behaviours will be put in place with clear boundaries and expectations.

**Step 3:** if steps 1 and 2 are unsuccessful, then a review meeting will be called with the Leader of Learning for the area and a representative from the pupil's home school, alongside the pupil and their parent/carer. A more appropriate form of support will be discussed to better meet the pupil's educational needs. HOE will cease to be involved in the educational provision and will pass responsibility back to the home school or another alternative provision as discussed in the meeting.



**AGREEMENT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FROM  
HOSPITAL AND OUTREACH EDUCATION**

- I confirm that I have read and understood the details about my child's education with HOE contained in the parent handbook
- I confirm I will abide by the conditions laid out in the Parent- PRU agreement
- I confirm I will abide by the attendance agreement and the terms of teaching at the outreach base
- I confirm I will abide by the terms of the acceptable use policy
- I confirm I will support HOE in implementing the use of the mobile phones policy
- I confirm that I will support HOE in encouraging my child to show good behaviour for learning

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

Parent/Carer of: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Hospital and Outreach Education

**Confidential Information for \_\_\_\_\_ (pupil name)**

Home Address:..... Tel no: .....

..... Mobile no:.....

..... Pupil Mobile no:.....

E mail address: ..... Pupil DOB: .....

School:..... School Tel. No: .....

School contact name and number: .....

HOE Core teacher: .....

**Emergency Contacts:**

Name	Relationship to pupil	Address	Tel. No. (with code)	Mobile No.
1.				
2.				
3.				

If your child has a disability or medical condition which could require special attention in case of an accident or emergency, please give details below. Details of any allergies or reaction to medication should also be included.

In accordance with the Department for Education and Department of Health guidelines we are not able to administer any non-essential or non prescription medication to pupils whilst attending our premises.

*For details of 'essential medication' please refer to the Hospital and Outreach Education Policy for the Administration of Medication which is available on our website [www.nhoe.org.uk](http://www.nhoe.org.uk).*

It is essential that you discuss and agree all of your son/daughter's medication with a member of the HOE staff prior to them attending a HOE teaching base.  
Please detail any other useful information you would like us to know about your child which might impact on their attendance or ability to learn.

**I understand that the confidential information contained above will be held for reasons of accident or emergency only and will not be made available to any person outside of the care of this young person.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_