



## Broughton Hall Catholic High School

# ALTERNATIVE AND OFF SITE PROVISION

### **Definition of Alternative Provision**

This is education arranged by local authorities for pupils who, because of exclusion, illness or other reasons, would not otherwise receive suitable education; education arranged by schools for pupils on a fixed period exclusion; and pupils being directed by schools to off-site provision to improve their behaviour. (DfE, 2013)

### **Main legislation covering the duties and powers relating to these issues (DfE, 2013)**

- Section 19 of the Education Act 1996, as amended by section 3A of the Children, Schools and Families Act 2010;
- Section 29A of the Education Act 2002;
- Sections 6A and 100 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006;
- Sections 1C and 4 of the Academies Act 2010 (as amended);
- The Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Application of Enactments) (England) Regulations 20071;
- The Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Management Committees etc.) (England) Regulations 2007;
- The Education (Educational Provision for Improving Behaviour) Regulations 2010
- The Education (Short Stay Schools) (Closure) (England) Regulations 2010;
- The Pupil Referral Units (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2012; and
- The Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.

### **Key points**

- Local Authorities are responsible for arranging suitable education for permanently excluded pupils, and for other pupils who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such arrangements being made.
- Governing bodies of schools are responsible for arranging suitable full-time education from the sixth day of a fixed period exclusion.
- Schools may also direct pupils off-site for education, to help improve their behaviour.

### **Alternative and Off Site Provision**

**These are the main reasons for choosing Alternative Provision:**

Alternative and Off Site Provision is educational provision for pupils who are not accessing mainstream education for a variety of reasons. These may include:

- The pupil's key talents are not being developed through the national curriculum. Alternative Provision recognizes that we are all individuals with different strengths and weaknesses and that mainstream education is not for everyone.

- The pupil has had one or more fixed-term exclusions and is considered to be at risk of permanent exclusion from school. Alternative Provision is a strategy to avoid permanent exclusion for pupils and to encourage inclusion in education.
- The pupil has not been attending school regularly for whatever reason, and is therefore unlikely to achieve GCSEs. Alternative Provision offers a different setting with a broader choice of subjects for pupils which may encourage attendance.

**All procedures have been developed on the basis of the following principles:**

- Learners referred to off-site alternative provision should be referred on the basis that this provision is more appropriate for them than what Broughton Hall Catholic High School can provide.
- If an alternative placement breaks down the situation will be discussed and a meeting convened and if it is unable to be resolved the pupil will be expected to return to Broughton Hall Catholic High school.
- Once committed to off-site alternative provision, learners must attend, and failure to do so should carry the same consequences as non-attendance at the Home School.
- The school will monitor the learner's attendance at the new provider.
- Attendance at off-site alternative provision will be monitored closely and every step will be taken to ensure that accurate attendance data is kept by the Home School.
- All professionals have a statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and tracking and reporting attendance at alternative provision is an essential component in achieving this.
- There is an expectation that any safeguarding concerns are raised with the Lead Safeguarding Officer at Broughton Hall Catholic High School and that all alternative providers adhere to the safeguarding policy held by the school.

**Process**

Broughton Hall Catholic High School will set up a meeting involving all relevant parties, including parents/carers and others as appropriate.

- A representative from the school will clearly explain to families the reasons why the alternative provision is being offered. If the provision is being offered as an alternative to permanent exclusion this must be clear to parents so that they are able to make an informed decision. If parents refuse to accept the offer of alternative provision as an appropriate alternative to Permanent Exclusion, the Head Teacher of the school would need to decide whether to proceed with the original exclusion.
- Learners and their parents will sign the necessary documentation for Off-Site Alternative Provision
- Responsibilities for supporting the child and timescales for reviewing the provision would be agreed during the initial meeting.
- Learners must attend the Off Site Alternative provision as required and parents/carers must support this.
- Alternative learning providers will contact Broughton Hall High School whenever the learner is absent.
- If a learner is absent, Broughton Hall Catholic High School will contact parents and try and resolve the issue to ensure regular attendance is achieved and if unsuccessful, contact the school's Attendance and Welfare Officer for advice. If necessary this should then be referred to other agencies as appropriate.
- Broughton Hall Catholic High School will formally monitor attendance and update records and maintain contact with the alternative learning provider.
- If the placement does not appear to be working or if the student is not attending - a formal meeting should be held involving the school, parent/carer, students and any other appropriate person. The meeting will reinforce the expectations of the original agreement while seeking feasible alternatives.
- If a pupil is permanently excluded from an alternative provision placement, a meeting will be convened between the named mainstream school, alternative provider and the family to discuss either a return to the child's Home School or to identify a further alternative provider.

- Any agreement around alternative provision for a pupil must be regularly reviewed. Timescales and responsibilities for reviewing the agreement must be clear to professionals, parents and the pupil and occur every term.
- Impact/success will be measured against the targets the students are set in a meeting once per term. Examples of these could include: attendance, behaviour and qualifications.