



BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL

Every young person aged between 2 and 19 years admitted to the Evelina Hospital School has the right to an educational programme while they are receiving in-patient/day-patient treatment. This in principle means attending school.

The young people admitted have a variety of needs and problems. These needs will be recognised in their educational plans, which will also take into account their social and emotional needs as well as their academic strengths and abilities.

Being able to be part of and work in a group is a very important part of school life. However, we do recognise that, too many of our students particularly when they first arrive in hospital, group activities can be unsettling. In these circumstances, if at all possible, we will work individually with the pupil, introducing them onto a group activity as soon as we feel they will be able to adjust to the group.

It is our expectation that every young person should attend school and their educational group for all sessions. By participating in the school programme a young person is helped towards recovery.

It is important to remember that schooling may have been challenging in the past and presented situations where the child has constantly met with a sense of failure.

GUIDELINES FOR HOW WE SHOULD TREAT EACH OTHER IN SCHOOL

Racist, sexist or bullying behaviour will not be tolerated. The headteacher will meet with anyone using racist, sexist or bullying behaviour in school. The ward staff will be informed of these behaviours and it may be considered necessary to meet with parents or carers. We will try to resolve the situation sensitively by trying to help the person involved understand the effect of such anti-social behaviour.

Our expectations include that:

- We will use appropriate words to tell each other how we feel. Swearing will be dealt with in the context of the situation.
- We do not intentionally hurt others physically or emotionally.
- We do not damage property, others or our own.

- We work to get out of a problem, not to stay in it.

ACTIVELY PROMOTING GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Every young person is encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour, where possible.

In the secondary/post 16 group (BAU), time is set aside for an assessment period every week. Each young person's achievements are commented on by the adults who have worked with that young person that week. The young people are encouraged to comment on their peers and to reflect on their achievements. Young people grade themselves on performance and effort that they have put into the week's programme. It is a reflective time and a time to consider the forthcoming week and what will have to be achieved to improve. The emphasis for the assessment is on effort and progress. It is a good way of ending the week's work with aims and goals for the week to come. A further review the week session is held at Snowfields that emphasises success and therefore good behaviour. A simpler form of assessment, highlighting positive achievements, is used with the primary/middle group.

STRATEGIES FOR HELPING IMPROVE BEHAVIOUR

If, for whatever reason, a child or young person is constantly disruptive in the group to such an extent that the schooling of everyone is affected, then different methods of working with this young person will be tried:

1. Working away from the group with one adult.
2. The possibility of working with school staff on the ward for set periods, then a planned re-integration into the school programme.

If at all possible, we will endeavour to support a young person in school. However, if the student is too unwell to be in school or someone is so disruptive that the learning environment is affected, then we will make arrangements for that young person to remain on the ward for the time being. This decision will be reached in school and then discussed with the young person's primary nurse and the wider nursing team. This decision will be reviewed daily. Where possible, the young person will be seen on the ward by a member of school staff. We seek to provide the optimal setting that is both manageable by the pupil and which promotes successful learning at all levels.

Headteacher | Anne Hamilton BSc Hons NPQH | 020 7188 2267 | office@evelina.southwark.sch.uk
Evelina London Childrens Hospital, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7EH

