

**West Lea Commissioned
Services
Report for 2019 – 20**

Attendance Support Unit, Tuition and School Room Report 2019 – 2020

The Local Authority commissions West Lea School to run three satellite supports for young people who are not able to access education in a school setting for a variety of reasons:

The Attendance Support Unit (ASU), currently based at West Lea's Ponders End campus, which offers on site short term placements for young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health issues impacting on their ability to attend school. The ASU works collaboratively with students' home schools and other agencies (chiefly Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, Special Educational Needs Services and Social Care) to re-establish engagement with learning and support re-integration.

The Tuition Service, for young people unable to attend due to illness/other who need to learn at home or elsewhere until they are well enough to return to school. Supporting medical evidence of need is required. Referrals are primarily for those recovering from surgery or with immunity issues due to chemotherapy/other.

The School Room at the North Middlesex Hospital which offers learning whilst young people are receiving in-patient treatment, and also acts as a point of liaison between medical and education professionals to address safeguarding and wellbeing concerns.

Referrals from schools to the ASU are discussed at a Local Authority multi-agency Panel once a month, where feedback is also given on the work of the Tuition Service and School Room and Electively Home Educated students who have come to the attention of Services are also raised.

For 2019/20, the School was provided with £309,000 pa from the High Needs block for these commissioned services.

ASU – overview and outcomes

11 students from Year 7 – 11 with SEMH issues who had not attended school for timeframes ranging from three months to more than a year came to the ASU in 2019 – 2020 and were supported to return to either home school/other or transition on to College. Two of these students had Education Health and Care Plans finalized during their ASU time and moved to appropriate provisions. Three were acknowledged self-harmers on arrival but concerns reduced considerably with regular liaison between the ASU team, CAMHS and parent/carers. One student was being treated for an eating disorder by the Royal Free Hospital Outreach Team but was discharged from their care as issues stabilized.

1 student in Year 11 who had been out of school for more than twelve months attended the ASU every day for six weeks from October '19 but then disengaged from the programme and despite efforts of professionals would not return. He had accessed Careers Advice put in place by the ASU and on onwards plan for Year 12 was proposed but not followed.

1 student in Year 11 was offered support via the ASU but did not engage with either that or a bespoke learning package subsequently arranged. The student was already known to the

Enfield Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) support network and several Services. He was taken in to custody in early 2020, where he remains.

The Tuition Service

18 students from Reception to Year 11 were offered L.A home tuition in response to referrals from schools accompanied by supporting medical evidence. Tutors and the West Lea team maintained contact with their schools to ensure they were able to work in tandem with classmates, did not fall too far behind and so were less anxious about returning. Schools were enormously supportive of this which was much appreciated by all involved.

The main reason for referral was recovery from spinal or other surgery/receiving or recovering from treatment for leukaemia. Most students re-integrated gradually with three being assisted by their tutor going with them for agreed lessons/days.

One student sadly passed away during the year.

The School Room at the North Middlesex Hospital

The School Room is usually based on Rainbow Ward, one of two paediatric wards at the Hospital and is staffed by one tutor with visits and external support by an additional member of West Lea staff. The West Lea team also attends a weekly Psycho-Social meeting (multi-disciplinary forum to discuss children/families causing concern around SEMH issues, possible neglect, housing etc) on site at the N.M.H.

If young people are well enough and wish to do so they can sit in the School Room or the tutor will bring work, a game or an art or craft activity to the bedside. Home schools may be asked to supply work if the student will be receiving in-patient treatment for a few days. English, maths and other lesson packs for all Years are always available from the School Room.

The School Room has been displaced due to COVID-19 but the tutor continues to provide a service.

The wards have capacity for twenty-five children and the tutor will sometimes see up to seventeen in a day - the average is **8 students** per day.

Elective Home Education Support

In response to concerns around Electively Home Educated young people needing additional help raised mainly via the EHE Adviser:

4 students in Year 11 were offered maths and English lessons within the ASU.

7 students in Year 11 were offered Careers Advice on site at the ASU.

Total number of ASU, Tuition and EHE students accessing/offered support: 42