

Attendance Support Unit, Home Tuition and Hospital Tuition Report 2020 - 2021

West Lea School is commissioned to provide the Homes and Hospitals outreach service until 31st March 2023.

The Homes and Hospital Outreach provision comprises the following:

- Attendance Support Unit
- Home Tuition
- Hospital Tuition at North Middlesex Hospital

The Attendance Support Unit (ASU), currently based at West Lea's St Mary's site offers 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, including CAMHS, SEN Department and Social Care, to re-establish engagement with learning and support re-integration.

The Tuition Service provides tuition for children unable to attend school due to complex illnesses, recovery from injury or surgery or other complex reasons. Tuition usually takes place in the home but has previously moved to a local library as part of a transition plan back to school. Tutors are also able to tutor onsite at a child's school to reintegrate them back into learning at school. Supporting medical evidence of need is required for a referral for tuition.

Hospital Tuition at the North Middlesex Hospital 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.

The School Room is usually based on Rainbow Ward at North Middlesex Hospital, one of two paediatric wards at the Hospital and is staffed by a teacher with visits and external support from West Lea staff.

The majority of young people who access this service are only inpatients for a couple of days, but there are some students with complex health issues and significant mental health problems who are readmitted on a number of occasions. The hospital teacher is able to provide ongoing liaison with the home school for children who are inpatients for more lengthy hospital stays.

Referral Process

Referrals from schools to the ASU are discussed at a Local Authority multi-agency panel once a month, where feedback is also given on students accessing home tuition.

Outreach Support to schools

Some of the referrals received from school do not meet the criteria for admission to the ASU but advice is offered on other support pathways.

Attendance Support Unit and Home Tuition Totals

Date	ASU	Home Tuition
2019/20	13	18
2020/21	9	18
2021 - to date	6	10
	6 Applegate Students *	

*Applegate is a pilot provision supporting students in the borough experiencing ESBA.

Overview and outcomes

ASU

9 students attended the ASU during the year 2020/21 which was in the middle of the Covid pandemic. 7 students who attended the ASU were from Key Stage 4 with one Year 12 student being supported. 3 of the students were undergoing an ASD assessment, resulting in 2 students being diagnosed with ASD. 5 of the students attending had an EHCP, with one of these student's EHCP being finalised while in the ASU.

While most ASU placements in the ASU are for short periods of time with a successful return to school, there are occasions when a return to the home school is not possible and the ASU staff work with the home school to support the student for a longer period of time, gain qualifications and identify post 16 progression pathways for Year 11 students. This is illustrated in the case studies below:

Student 1

Year: 11

Started ASU 4.3.19.

Need: Undergoing ASD assessment.

Qualifications: GCSE Maths, GCSE English, GCSE Art and BTEC Level 1.

Results: Maths GCSE Grade 4, English language GCSE Grade 4, Art GCSE Grade 4 and BTEC Level 1 Award in Personal and social Development.

Progression: This student was accepted on an apprenticeship at The London Hairdressing Apprenticeship Academy(LHAA).

Student 2

Year:11

Started ASU 1.10.19.

Need: ASD diagnosis from GOSH and EHCP finalised while at the ASU.

Qualifications: GCSE Maths, GCSE Art, and Functional Skills Maths and English.

Results: Maths GCSE Grade 4, Art GCSE Grade 2, Functional Skills Level 1 in Maths and English

Progression: This student was accepted at Barnet and Southgate college to study Art and Design (Level up course)

Student 3

Year: 10

Started ASU 24.4.19

Need: Ongoing SEMH/attendance concerns.

Qualifications: Functional Skills Level 1 Maths, Functional Skills Level 1 English, Level 1 Hairdressing.

Placement: Weekly college placement at Herts Regional College

Progression: Remaining in ASU for 2 days a week, 2 day placement on Hair and Beauty Course at Herts Regional College, 1 day work experience,

Student 4

Year: 11

Started ASU 16.11.20

Need: On CAMHS waiting list; counselling being offered via West Lea School.

Progression: Attended the ASU for 6 weeks and was supported with identifying a post 16 progression pathway before returning to home school

Trends

Case study analysis of the needs of students attending the ASU has highlighted the following trends:

- Emotional School Based Avoidance (EBSA)
- Students struggling with academic demands of Key Stage 4
- Awaiting an ASD Diagnosis
- Gender Identity issues
- Mental health issues including self-harm and suicidal ideation
- Increasing number of students requiring specialist support after discharge from inpatient adolescent units

Home Tuition

During the Academic Year 2020/21, 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.

The main reason for tuition referrals included recovery from surgery and receiving or recovering from treatment for leukaemia.

The majority of students returned to their home school after the tuition ended, often assisted by their tutor as part of a reintegration plan.

School Provision North Middlesex Hospital

Jane Claxton who ran the provision at North Middlesex Hospital retired at the end of the Autumn term 2020 after a number of years in post. Nicola Poulter was appointed as her successor and started in June 2021.

From the start of the Pandemic both Rainbow and Starlight wards were closed. Rainbow ward and the classroom still remain closed. Starlight ward reopened in June and we are able to offer bedside teaching on the ward and in the Paediatric Assessment Unit on the ground floor where regular transfusion patients can request educational activities.

There are 16 beds on Starlight ward. On an average day there are 8 school age pupils including foundation stage children on Starlight Ward and 1- 2 students on the Paediatric Assessment Unit.

During 2020/21 we purchased 12 Surface Go 2s tablets to support learning on the ward and to enable patients to access online learning with their home schools.

C.Goodwin January 2022