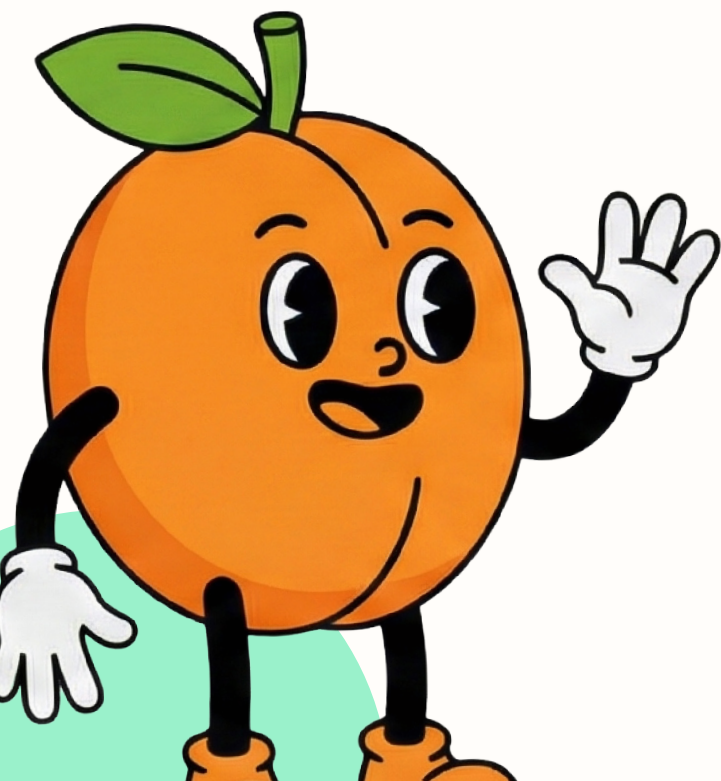


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Section 19 Information Pack



WELCOME TO APRICOT LEARNING!

Apricot Learning is an online education provider supporting young people who are unable to attend full-time school.

We work with local authorities, schools, virtual schools, fostering agencies, and families to ensure education continues during periods of disruption, including medical needs, anxiety, exclusion, placement change, or while longer term provision is arranged. Much of this work supports local authorities in meeting their Section 19 duties, providing timely, appropriate education when students cannot attend school for reasons beyond their control.

All teaching is delivered live by qualified teachers through secure online classrooms. Lessons are calm, fun, structured, and trauma informed, helping young people re-engage with learning at a pace that feels safe and achievable.

Our role is to provide continuity. We keep education in place while assessments, placements, or reintegration plans are developed, working alongside existing professionals to reduce gaps and maintain stability.

Apricot Learning teaches from Key Stage 3 through Key Stage 5, including Functional Skills, GCSEs, and A levels, aligned with the English National Curriculum and all major exam boards. Provision is flexible, responsive, and shaped around each young person's needs.



WHAT IS SECTION 19?

Under Section 19 of the Education Act 1996, local authorities have a legal duty to arrange suitable education for children of compulsory school age who cannot attend school due to illness, exclusion, anxiety, or other circumstances.

This duty applies whether the absence is short term or longer term, and regardless of whether a school place technically remains open. For many young people, Section 19 provision acts as a bridge: keeping education in place while medical evidence is gathered, placements are sought, or reintegration plans are developed.

Section 19 exists to maintain continuity and stability, ensuring a child's right to education is upheld when the usual route is unavailable.

How Apricot Learning Delivers Section 19

We provide live, trauma informed online education that helps local authorities meet their Section 19 duties quickly, flexibly, and safely. Authorities can commission a set number of seats, allowing young people to move in and out of provision as needs change.

This creates a responsive, rolling model that supports rapid referrals, short term placements, reintegration, and longer provision where needed, including full academic years for Year 11.

The result is education that stays in place, adapts to circumstances, and remains centred on the young person.

A STRUCTURED MODEL WITH BUILT IN FLEXIBILITY



Our Section 19 programmes run on set timetables, providing predictability and routine for young people who often need it most.

Provision typically includes:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- PSHE



Timetables are agreed with each authority and can be adapted to reflect local priorities. Some authorities focus on English and Maths only, while others include Science and PSHE. Subjects outside this core can be commissioned where required, usually for longer term provision.

We currently deliver structured pathways across:

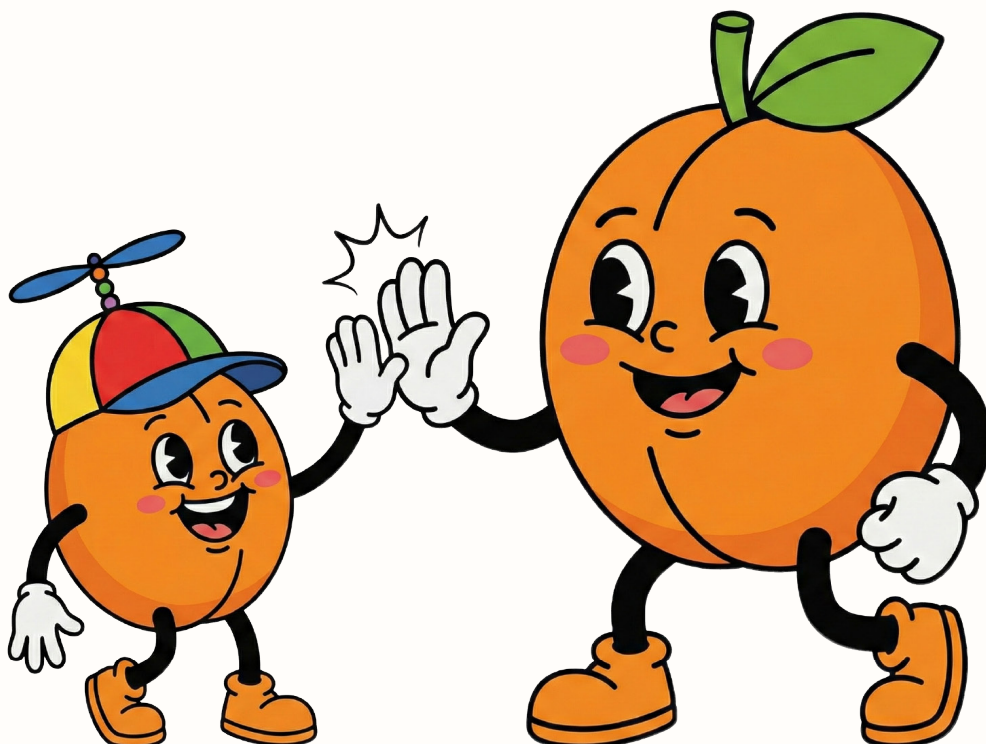
- Key Stage 3 including Years 7 and 8 and lower level Year 9
- GCSE pathways for Years 9 and 10
- Dedicated Year 11 provision
- Permanently Excluded (PEX) pathways and short term re-engagement programmes

WHO SECTION 19 PROVISION IS FOR

Apricot Learning supports young people who are temporarily or persistently unable to attend school, including those who:

- Are absent due to medical needs or hospital treatment
- Experience anxiety or emotionally based school avoidance
- Are excluded or at risk of exclusion
- Are awaiting placement or assessment
- Are moving between schools or settings
- Are in foster care, looked-after children, or care-experienced
- Require short term stabilisation before reintegration

Every learner arrives with a different story; our role is to keep education going while next steps are worked through.



HOW LEARNING WORKS

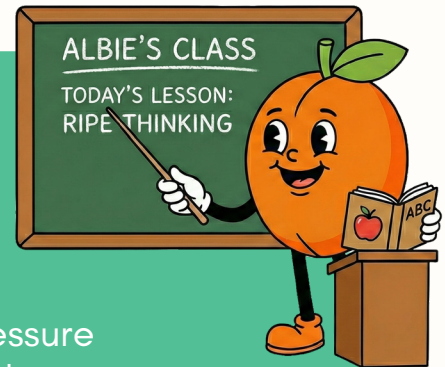
All lessons are delivered live by qualified teachers in calm, secure online classrooms.

Teaching is:

- Trauma informed and relationship led
- Structured but flexible
- Built around engagement rather than pressure
- Aligned with the English National Curriculum

Young people are not placed into large, anonymous groups. Class sizes remain small and lessons are shaped to support confidence, regulation, and participation.

This approach allows many students who have struggled to engage elsewhere to begin attending regularly again, often within days.



A Rolling Model That Reduces Risk

Because Section 19 provision is often unpredictable, our model is designed to reduce friction for commissioners.

Seats can be:

- Reallocated when a young person reintegrates
- Used for emergency placements
- Maintained across short or longer periods
- Adjusted termly as needs change

This ensures education does not stop while decisions are made.

REPORTING THAT SUPPORTS DECISION MAKING

Clear, accessible reporting sits at the heart of our Section 19 offer, giving local authorities and partner professionals a shared, reliable picture of attendance, engagement, progress, and next steps. Apricot Learning has been quality assured by multiple local authorities and has contributed to national discussions on online education standards.

Local authorities receive:

- Live attendance tracking
- Regular progress updates
- Clear evidence of engagement and participation
- Narrative reporting that supports reviews and panels

Our reports focus on both academic progress and learning behaviours, helping professionals understand what is working, where support is needed, and when a learner may be ready for transition.

Safeguarding and Assurance

- All teachers are enhanced DBS checked and safeguarding trained
- Lessons take place in secure online classrooms
- Webcams are disabled and private student to student chat is not enabled
- Lessons are recorded for safeguarding and quality assurance
- Provision aligns with DfE guidance and Ofsted Section 5 expectations



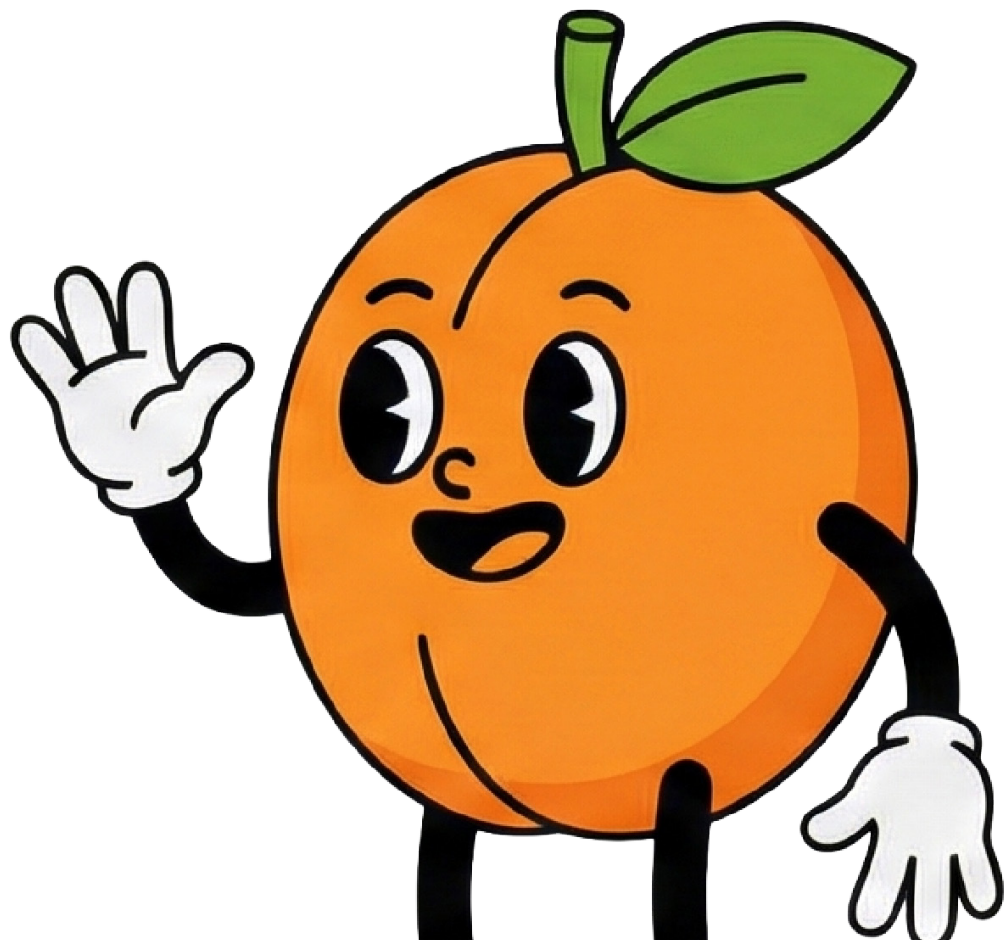
WORKING ALONGSIDE EXISTING PROFESSIONALS

Apricot Learning does not replace schools, virtual schools, or local authority teams.

We work alongside:

- Inclusion teams
- Attendance services
- Medical needs teams
- Virtual schools
- Social care and SEND teams

Our role is to maintain educational continuity while longer term decisions are made, ensuring no young person is left without provision during periods of uncertainty.



GETTING STARTED

Commissioning Section 19 provision with us is straightforward.

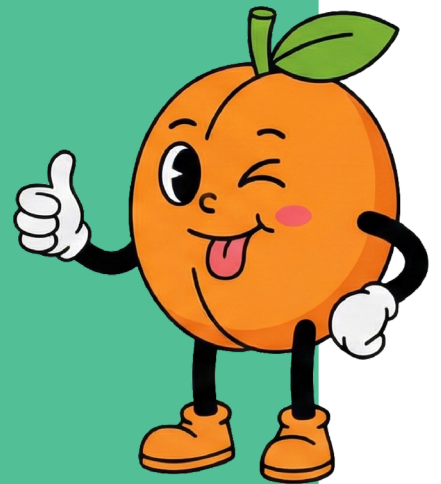
To begin a conversation, get in touch via the below details:

Email info@apricotlearningonline.co.uk
Or call **01242 604985**

We will discuss:

- Your local needs
- Preferred timetable structure
- Key stages and pathways
- Reporting requirements

Provision can often begin quickly once arrangements are agreed, allowing young people to start accessing live online lessons within a short timeframe and helping education remain continuous.





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