

<b>Title</b>	<b>EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH MEDICAL NEEDS POLICY</b>
<b>Cross References</b>	<p><b>External:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education Act 1996 Section 19</li> <li>• Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions at School</li> </ul> <p><b>Internal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEND Policy</li> </ul>
<b>Date</b>	<b>October 2024</b>

## Introduction

Apricot Online aims to raise the educational and life chances of all vulnerable students, including those with medical needs. We provide services specifically designed for vulnerable students including those who are physically ill, injured or who have clinically defined mental health problems.

We provide teaching and support for students aged 8-25 who are unable to attend school because of a diagnosed medical condition following the government's strategy to promote equal access to education for all children.

## Aims

Apricot Online adheres to the primary aim of educating students who are ill or have suffered injury, by minimising, as far as possible, the interruption of and disruption to their normal schooling by continuing education as normally as possible and appropriate to their age, ability, educational needs and health at the time.

### The following key principles underpin our services:

- The well-being of the whole child or young person
- The 5 outcomes of Every Child Matters agenda
- Close partnership with parents, carers and students
- Clear policies, procedures and standards of provision
- Equality of educational opportunities in relation to the student's peer group
- An appropriate broad, balanced curriculum, differentiated according to need
- Continuity of educational provision, complementary to and comparable to that provided by the student's home school, but flexible enough to cater for individual need
- Clear lines of communication between Apricot Online, schools, other educational agencies and health professionals to ensure effective liaison and collaboration
- Successful reintegration to school when possible
- Provision of the optimum service for meeting educational and emotional needs and understanding of students' differing learning styles
- Provision of excellent teaching and learning in and innovative and engaging style
- Accountability and best value

## **Standards of education and performance measures**

- 🍌 Baseline data and attainment levels in the National Curriculum are ascertained from schools through contact with the commissioning school/LEA. Apricot Online HQ and teachers work closely with schools and students themselves to structure Individual Learning Plans. Students' progress is assessed and recorded weekly and half-termly on an individual basis, using the levels of the National Curriculum, soft skills assessments and performance reporting on subject-specific learning objectives.
- 🍌 All teachers are specialists in their own area and adept at engaging interest to ensure maximum progress.
- 🍌 A self-evaluation and internal monitoring process is in place.

## **Partnership with parents and carers and students**

Parents and carers hold key information and knowledge and have a crucial part to play in the education of their child. Apricot Online regards them as full collaborative partners and involves them fully in their child's educational plan, programmes of work, progress and attainment and reporting. Students also have a right to be involved in making decisions and exercising choices and are encouraged to do so.

## **Arrangements for collaboration with other agencies**

Effective and flexible collaboration between Apricot Online, the LEA, the student's school, medical personnel, allied health professionals, voluntary sector, parents/carers and other agencies (e.g., the Connexions Service) is crucial. It ensures the continuity of high quality educational provision for students with medical needs and facilitates their successful re-entry into school.

## **Equal opportunities**

Apricot Online recognises its duty under the Disability Discrimination Act and are committed to fulfilling requirements under the Race Relations act by:

- 🍌 Demonstrating respect for all people
- 🍌 Promoting staff awareness of culture, ethnicity and religion
- 🍌 Creating an ethos of cultural diversity
- 🍌 Generating a culture in which everyone can participate in a learning environment.

## **Differentiation and Special Educational Needs**

It is the intention that all students, regardless of ability, should be encouraged to work to their full potential. Activities and tasks are matched to the ability of the child in order to fulfil the potential of the more able, while reinforcing and supporting those of lower ability. Students with special educational needs and those who may be gifted and talented are offered the support appropriate to their learning needs.

**Authorised by:** Jodie Phillips, Operation Director

**Date:** October 2024

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