

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
'Following Jesus in all we do'



Alternative Provision Policy

2024-2025

Date policy shared with teaching staff: 02.09.24

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Contact Details:

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Legal framework

This policy has due regard to legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

Education and Inspections Act 2006

Data Protection Act 2018

The General Data Protection Regulation

Education Act 2002

DfE (2013) 'Alternative Provision'

DfE (2017) 'Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England'

DfE (2021) 'Keeping children safe in education'

DfE (2018) 'Mental health and behaviour in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

Trauma Informed Behaviour Policy

Equal Opportunities Policy

Attendance Policy

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

E-safety Policy

Health and Safety Policy

SEND Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

The use of alternative provision will only be considered if it is in the best interests of the student in order to enhance our offer of education for that individual. Any agreement will be monitored and reviewed at regular intervals to ensure that this continues to be the case once the placement has started.

The final decision to refer a student for alternative provision is at the discretion of the Head Teacher after consulting relevant colleagues, professionals, parents, carers and the student for their views. The following will also be considered:

- Whether the provision meets the student's needs.
- The quality and safety of the provision.
- Costs and value for money.

Purpose of alternative provision

The school recognises that all pupils are individuals with different strengths and areas for development, and that mainstream education is not suitable for everyone.

Alternative provision focusses on ensuring that pupils continue to receive a high-quality education whilst their needs are being addressed and offers a variety of alternative curriculum provisions in order to support pupils' wider development.

The school may arrange alternative provision for pupils for several reasons including, but not limited to, the following:

- To encourage the inclusion in education of pupils who have had one or more fixed-period exclusions, or who are at risk of permanent exclusion
- To ensure pupils are offered a variety of alternative curriculum provisions as a way of supporting their wider development, and equip them with skills and experience that will benefit them later in life
- To fulfil Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP) provisions.
- To further personalise the curriculum for some pupils, where there is a need
- To meet the needs of pupils who struggle to meet the academic and social demands of mainstream education expectations
- To meet the needs of pupils who because of illness or other reasons, including social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs, would not receive suitable education.
- To meet legal obligations

In the first instance alternative provision will be provided on site at St Joseph's to support the mental health and wellbeing of the pupil and promote positive outcomes. This will be delivered by staff who have the appropriate training to best support the pupil. On-site alternative provision will be overseen by the Behaviour Lead and the Senior Mental Health Lead.

Once directed to alternative provision, the length of time a pupil spends there will be dependent on what best supports their needs, providing the placement is appropriate and their progress is regularly monitored.

- Directing a pupil to alternative provision can benefit them in different ways depending on their individual circumstances, including the following:
- Pupils self-esteem can improve.
- Interactions with others can improve.
- A reduction in behaviour issues at school.
- Pupils can access a variety of educational options, including academic and vocational routes.

Referral process

The school will work in conjunction with alternative provision providers to develop procedures for referring and admitting pupils to alternative provision.

Once the school has taken the decision to direct a pupil to alternative provision, the pupil and their parents will be called for a meeting with the headteacher and / or other relevant staff.

At the meeting, it will be clearly explained to the pupil and their parent(s) the reasons for directing the pupil to alternative provision.

An agreement will be made between the school and the parents with regards to referring the pupil to alternative provision. This agreement will be reviewed on a termly basis, and the timescales and responsibilities for reviewing the agreement must be made clear to providers, parents and pupils.

Responsibilities for supporting the pupil and timescales for reviewing the alternative provision agreement will be made during the initial meeting.

Parents of the pupil will be fully involved in the referral process and any decisions taken to refer their child to alternative provision.

Once parents have agreed for their child to be directed to alternative provision, the pupil must attend any on- or off-site provision; failure to attend the provision will carry the same consequences as non-attendance at the school, as outlined in the Attendance Policy.

Where parents refuse to accept the offer of alternative provision, this will be documented by a member of the ELT on the form on the ShareDrive.

A pupil referred to alternative provision will be dual registered from the day the provision commences.

Safeguarding

The provider will:

- Inform school when a young person does not attend the provision.

- Follow their safeguarding procedures but also inform St Joseph's Catholic Primary School of any concerns, so they can be passed on to our DSL.
- Inform parents of any first aid treatment.

The School will:

- Send an appropriate member of staff to the provision ahead of the student attending.
- Complete all relevant checks.
- Share information that is in the student's best interest to share, around their needs (including medical conditions and individual healthcare plans if in place) and strategies to support them to achieve.
- Record and track the use of alternative providers using our Single Central Record.

Alternative Provision Support Plan and Review

Name		Date	
Class		Attendance	
FSM			
SEN			
Medical			

Referral Needs

What strategies have been tried at school?	
Description of need	
Objectives of the referral	

Agreed Provision

Present at the meeting	
Details of Alternative Provision offered (include days, times and travel arrangements)	
Date when Alternative Provision will be reviewed	

Provision Review

Review how the placement is progressing – strengths and weakness, likes and dislikes.

Date	
Parent Voice	
Pupil Voice	
School Voice	
Any amendments needed?	