



# **Attendance & Participation Strategy Beaumont Hospital School**

## **Attendance & Participation Strategy**

<b>Original Brief Attendance &amp; Participation Strategy</b>	<b>January 2020</b>
<b>Review interval</b>	<b>Bi-annually</b>
<b>Ratified by</b>	<b>Board of Management</b>
<b>Date of Ratification</b>	28-02-2025   12:52 PM GMT

# Attendance & Participation Strategy

## 1. Introduction:

In line with the Enrolment Policy of Beaumont Hospital School, all eligible students are encouraged to enroll and engage in the education service available to them while they are hospitalised. The changed nature of the educational service means potential students are situated in adult wards through out the hospital. Careful consultation with medical staff is first established to ensure patient privacy, medical confidentiality and physical needs are understood in advance of initiation of teacher contact. Patient rights to privacy are respected by school staff at all times.

## 2. Awareness of Services:

Students and, where possible, their parents are made aware of the school and its services through the following:

- School staff introducing themselves to potential students and (where possible) their parents [ Note: students are in adult ward settings. They are offered the services of the educational team and given this opportunity through medical staff]
- Parents and students calling directly to the school office
- Referrals from medical staff, other hospital schools and home schools
- Promotion of the work of the school by the hospital staff

## 3. Strategies to encourage Participation:

We acknowledge that because of a host of reasons including unfamiliarity with staff, separation anxiety, trauma, pain management, effects of medication, changes in appearance, loss of self confidence, lack of focus and concentration, absence of family and peer support etc., some students may initially be reticent to avail of the Hospital School service. The following strategies are in place to counteract these obstacles:

**3.1 “Doctor’s Orders”:** Our school team works with the medical professionals whose primary aim is rehabilitation. Getting to school is a milestone which is a sure sign students are getting closer to the door and going home. Resumption of normal activities may highlight potential areas of concern, which otherwise may not arise until the child is back in home school and struggling.

**3.2 Parental Support:** School staff engage with parents and students, inform them of service.

**3.3 Home School Support:** The Hospital School encourages open communication with the principal and staff of the child’s home school to ensure that continuity of education is achieved for students, that their transition between schools is as smooth as possible and that education delivered is appropriate to their changing needs.

## 4. School Refusal:

The school accepts that it is the right of the student/parent/guardian to accept/decline the education service.

On occasion, when medical needs prevent school enrolment or a parent/student makes an informed decision not to enroll his/her child at that particular time, the school will continue to engage sensitively, provide the necessary information to enable enrolment at a later date.

## 5. Attendance Records:

Beaumont Hospital I School will maintain attendance records in accordance with DES rules.

A report to include these records will be issued on discharge to the parents of those students who satisfy attendance criteria, on request.

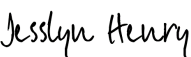
These reports will also be communicated to the Home School on discharge where such a request is made.

## 6. Home Tuition:

At times, a student on discharge will be medically unfit to return to base school, the hospital teacher will provide information and guidance to parents on the completion of the DES Home Tuition Forms in consultation with medical teams.

## 7. Policy Review:

This policy will be reviewed and updated to conform with the provisions stipulated in Section 22 Education Welfare Act 2000.

Signed by:  
  
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