

Garston Church of England Primary School



ALTERNATIVE/ OFF-SITE PROVISION POLICY

Alternative provision is educational provision for students who are unable to access mainstream education for a number of different reasons, or who are unsuited to the mainstream provision on offer.

The school recognises that there is a need to ensure that our curriculum is inclusive and accessible, providing opportunities for all students to succeed. Moreover, we recognise the need to offer the type of provision that allows some students to achieve their potential outside of what is accessible at Garston Primary School.

To facilitate this individual learning pathway, Garston Primary School works with different local providers to help students receive the support they require.

Objectives of this Policy

The objectives of this policy are:

- To outline the reasons why students might be offered alternative provision.
- To ensure that alternative provision is offered to suitable students in a consistent way.
- To provide guidance on the referral process and the suitability of alternative providers.
- To ensure there are suitable procedures in place relating to attendance and the safeguarding of students when under the care of alternative providers.
- To outline the arrangements in place for keeping in touch with students to monitor academic progress, behaviour and pastoral welfare.

Reasons why we might offer Alternative Provision

Students will be referred to Alternative Provision on the basis that this provision is more appropriate for them than what Garston Primary School can provide. Some reasons might be:

- 🚩 The student's strengths are not being developed through the National Curriculum. Alternative provision recognises that students have different strengths and weaknesses and these areas need to be developed further.
- The student may be at risk of being permanently excluded and require some additional behavioural support.
- The student may have a specific educational need and require specifically trained staff to provide part/full time support.

Attendance and Safeguarding

- Garston will ensure that the alternative provider is registered and approved and that they have relevant policies in place to cover Safeguarding, Child Protection and Health & Safety.
- Garston will ensure that all alternative providers hold a copy of, and adhere to, Garston Primary School's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies.
- All professionals have a statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and tracking and reporting attendance at alternative provision is an essential component in achieving this.
- Attendance at off-site alternative provision will be monitored closely and every step should be taken to ensure that accurate attendance data is kept by Garston Primary School.
- The SENCo will visit the provision at the start of the placement.
- Alternative providers will contact Garston Primary School whenever the student is absent.
- Garston Primary School will formally monitor attendance and update records and maintain contact with the alternative provider on a weekly basis.

Referral Process

A referral for Alternative Provision will be completed through the Social Inclusion Team or a Speech and Language consultant. The referral will be discussed and agreed to by parents or carers.