

Tallaght Hospital School

■ Title

Post Primary Pupils

■ Introductory Statement

This policy was formulated to address needs of post primary students. Tallaght Hospital School provides a service for all patients medically able to receive schooling.

■ Rationale

Post Primary pupils are an inherent part of our intake.

A policy is needed to serve the needs of Post Primary pupils while hospitalised to augment their education.

We strive to create an environment in which pupils can experience supportive learning in a positive setting.

■ Aims

- To provide age-appropriate education for each pupil in a stimulating atmosphere.
- To provide support in curricular areas.
- To engage pupils in interactive technology and develop IT skills.
- To provide support for exam preparation and exams.
- To provide support to long term pupils and ensure they have daily access to the school.
- To provide access to a post-primary teacher when needed.
- To promote mindfulness and wellbeing practices.

■ Guidelines

- Identify strengths and weaknesses to provide some support in curricular areas most needed.
- Educational needs can be identified by the teacher, pupil themselves, the parents, liaising with the main school.
- Post Primary pupils may use the opportunity to concentrate on 1 or 2 core subjects during hospitalisation.
- To provide feedback on progress to pupils, parents and liaise with their school.
- Engage post primary pupils in some activities outside of Junior/Leaving cert courses being followed e.g. Computer skills, Word processing, computer graphics, Art and Music.

■ Professional Development

Teachers will participate in Professional development courses centred around the Junior Cycle and other post-primary courses that may be of benefit.

Roles and responsibility

- The school service is concentrated in the children's wards.
- As it stands, contact with pupils outside of the children's wards (on the adult wards) have been brought to the attention of the teacher by medical/social work staff. Where possible the teacher aims to provide some service to these pupils without diminishing the level of service to the hospital school.
- An understanding and empathetic nature is highly important. In certain cases, Post Primary pupils may see school as a trigger for them. In these cases, we aim to provide them with activities such as Art, computer/coding work, project work etc. to allow them access to work while also looking after their mental health and wellbeing.

■ Review

This policy will be reviewed and evaluated after two years.

The policy will be revised and updated when necessary and in line with new information and/or guidelines e.g. Department of Education and Skills, feedback from parents/guardians, pupils, school staff and others.

■ Timeframe for Review

The policy will be reviewed October 2027

■ Timeframe for Implementation

This policy will be implemented from October 2025

■ Ratification and Communication

The Board of Management ratified this policy on the _____ of _____.

Signed: _____, (Chairperson, BOM)

Signed: _____, (Principal).