



Admissions Arrangements 2026-27



Service Context & Background

Southampton Hospital School provides education for children of school age who are receiving medical care at UHS NHS and are therefore unable to attend their home school. Southampton Hospital School also runs a Medical Outreach Service commissioned by Southampton City Council which provides education for pupils who are currently unable to attend school due to medical needs. In line with DFE guidance, all pupils enrolled at SHS must be referred by a medical practitioner. All referrals are sensitive to the health needs of the child, which remain the priority throughout the pupils' time on roll.

Admission Arrangements for UHS NHS

On admission all pupils are initially consultant referred. In all cases there must be an agreement with the parents that they want the child to engage in education and that they will provide information about their child's experience of schooling. A member of health staff will assess whether a pupil is medically fit to be taught at bedside or in the classroom.

Priority is given to inpatients that are:

- Long Stay: predicted to attend 10 school days or more.
- Recurring: previously enrolled at SHS.
- Taking Exams
- Statutory School Age: 4-16 years.

Short-Stay Patients:

- SHS may also teach and/or provide resources for pupils expected to attend for 3 to 9 school days.

Siblings of Patients / post 16:

- In exceptional circumstances siblings of Long Stay inpatients may also be taught by SHS. This is considered on a case by case basis.
- If we have capacity, we offer advice, guidance and support to students in the hospital in post 16 settings, although these children are not included on our roll. This may include help with preparing for resits in GCSE English and Maths.

SHS does not provide education for:

- Inpatients admitted to hospital for less than 3 days (including day-patients).
- Out-patients, unless previously enrolled at SHS.
- Children who are not patients of the hospital.

In the above instances, responsibility for the pupil's education remains with the home school.

Admission Arrangements for the Medical Outreach Service

SHS offers an educational outreach service for pupils with identified medical needs which prevent them from attending full time at their usual school. Referrals are made directly to the Local Authority Inclusion Officer for Children with Medical Needs and can come from CAMHS, EWOs, social workers and the child's home school. All referrals must be accompanied by medical evidence from a "medical practitioner", such as a consultant or general practitioner. This provision has a limited number of places and is only offered as a short-term intervention, with each case being reviewed every 6 weeks.

SHS Admissions Policy			
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