

Hospital and Education, Tuition and Outreach Service (HETOS)

Referral Process

If a child or young person is not attending school due to a medical or mental health condition, schools may want to consider a referral to HETOS. Please note: only schools can make a request for involvement of the HETOS team. Requests need to be accompanied by medical evidence from a Consultant or senior clinical medical officer. The Service is for children and young people resident in Swindon with long term sickness of 15 days or more, leading to extensive periods off school. A referral form needs to be completed and sent to Claire Jones, Administration Medical, email: Claire.jones@eotas.swindon.sch.uk

Advice and Guidance

HETOS advises professionals to phone and discuss any referrals they are considering. It may be that HETOS can provide them with appropriate advice and guidance to support the child or young person to remain in school.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Can Parents Refer to HETOS?

No, referrals are taken from schools and must be supported by medical evidence from a medical consultant (not a GP).

Is Medical Evidence Required for a Referral to HETOS?

Yes.

How long can a pupil remain with HETOS?

HETOS education support is not long-term. The time spent at HETOS depends on the impact of the medical condition and advice from the medical practitioner.

Does HETOS Always Aim to Reintegrate Pupils Back to Their Home School?

All our pupils must have an intention to return to school or to transition to another placement and this is discussed at the set-up meeting. HETOS is not a long-term alternative to mainstream education.

Does HETOS Take Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEND)?

Yes - the admission criteria are the same, regardless of the needs of the pupil.

Does HETOS Offer Home Teaching?

Only if a child/young person has medical evidence to say this is the most appropriate form of education. It can be much better for children/young people to be taught at our outreach centre, back in or a library.

Will a Pupil Transfer from Their School Roll to the HETOS Roll Once a Referral Has Been Accepted?

No, the pupil then becomes dual registered, so both HETOS and the school can work together to provide the appropriate educational support.

Cost: Schools are charged for outreach teaching, but there is no charge for teaching in hospital.

Age range: 4 years - 16 years

Additional information: HETOS Manager (lisa.macdonald@eotas.swindon.sch.uk)

NB. Additional information on working with young people with medical needs can be found via the Riverside Link.