

One minute guide

Medical Education Service (MES)

Medical education is a short-term intervention to help schools to provide continuity in education when a child or young person has been absent from school for 15 days or more due to a physical or mental health need. Medical education aims to support schools in reintegrating the child or young person into school. The medical education service is not an alternative provision nor a long-term solution. All schools have a statutory duty to make arrangements for children and young people with medical needs so they can access education and are not at a disadvantage.

Schools can contact MES co-ordinators for informal advice around a child or young person who may not meet the criteria to make a MES request. When a CYP is on a waiting list to see a health consultant schools may contact the MES for level 1 input.

More information about the MES including how to submit a request can be found at <https://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/medical-education-service>

What do the MES offer?

English and Maths tuition delivered in a young person's home, school or public setting according to individual health needs. This tuition is in addition to an offer of education from the home school who also provide the schemes of work for the tuition to follow.

Assessment skills. Working in partnership with the home school to agree English and maths assessment levels in order to set targets and evaluate progress. Assessments and graded levels are provided by the home school.

Technology packages. Including AV1 and Academy 21 to support learning from outside the classroom. This may take place on school site, in a public space or from home.

Exam support. Tuition and support to prepare for GCSE and A level in English and maths alongside the offer in place from the home school.

Collaborative working. Joint working with schools, health and other professionals to support children and young people as they transition back to their school setting after short term support.

Opportunities for group sessions. Supporting small tuition groups to provide opportunities to experience social interaction with peers.

What is important for the MES to work successfully?

- Shared outcomes with clear roles.
- Working together to achieve the shared outcomes.
- Regular Personalised Reintegration Education Plan (PREP) meetings to set and review targets with school, health and parents present.
- Specialist recommendations from health organisations, e.g- CAMHS, Chronic Fatigue Clinic
- If appropriate, the MES may recommend a referral to the SEND Hub for specialist support including Social, Emotional and Mental Health, Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction.
- Schools have the responsibility to ensure arrangements are in place for each child / young person so they can access education and continue to feel a part of the school.
- Schools to share their up to date policy on supporting children with medical needs.
- **Quality First Teaching** should promote the development of wellbeing within all subject areas through direct teaching of skills such as problem-solving, increasing motivation, coping/resilience, conflict management and resolution, collaborative working and managing feelings and relationships. Whole school approaches and classroom based teaching must promote good mental health and physical health. As part of a **graduated approach**,

Schools should aim to support Children and Young People (CYP) with physical or mental health medical needs by creating a safe and calm environment that supports mental health and wellbeing and equips CYP to be resilient so that they can manage the normal stress of life effectively.

Schools should **be aware of** medical needs as they arise, recognising emerging issues as early and accurately as possible, providing **early support** and access to arrangements in order to provide a suitable offer of education. Schools should draw on external agencies to provide swift access to **specialist support** and treatment, using the NYCC *Ladder of Intervention* as a structured framework to support CYP with medical needs.

Level 1 Content Advice, Consultation and Record of Contact provided by Locality MES Coordinator (maximum of 2 hours) to include advice and informal consultation (1 hour) with follow up recommendations.

Level 2 Content 1-2 Half terms of Intervention to include initial Personalised Reintegration Education Plan (PREP) meeting. Weekly tuition sessions with MES Teachers/ HLTAs. Review of school offer and arrangements to make an appropriate offer of education. Mid-Point PREP meeting review. Plan and support transition back in to school following agreed exit strategy.

Level 3 Content 1-2 terms of Intervention alongside the above. (Level 3+ to be reviewed half- termly.)

