

Alternative Provision Policy

Good Alternative Provision meets the needs of students who require it and enables them to achieve good educational attainment on a par with their mainstream peers. As a college we recognise that there is a need to ensure that our curriculum is inclusive and offers opportunities for all to succeed. This is in accordance with our mission statement as a “Commitment to Gospel Values and Personal Achievement”. There is a need to provide provision for those that need support to achieve their potential outside of what is accessible within the college. To facilitate this the college works with a number of external providers to help those students succeed.

Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College is able to access a variety of alternative provision placements. There is a clear rationale in place to ensure that this provision is for the benefit of the student’s academic and pastoral progress. The college has close links with

- Heart of Worcestershire College
- Worcester Sixth Form College
- Bridge Training and Development
- Aspire Academy
- Longlands Care Farm
- LIDMET
- Newbridge Short Stay College
- The Aspire Consortium

Principles of Alternative Provision

- Students referred to offsite Alternative Provision should be referred on the basis that the provision is more appropriate for them than what Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College can provide.
- If the Alternative Provision breaks down the situation will be discussed in college with relevant parties and if the matter cannot be resolved the student will be expected to return to Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College.
- The college will monitor attendance through close links with the Alternative Provision provider. The college will monitor attendance on a session by session basis. Accurate attendance data for students on Alternative Provision will be kept by Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College.
- Once committed to Alternative Provision students are expected to attend and failure to attend will carry the same consequences as non-attendance at college.
- Any safeguarding concerns which are raised will be passed to the Designated Safeguarding Person at Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College. All providers adhere to the college safeguarding policy.
- Prior to any Alternative Provision being set up a visit is arranged so that students can experience the setting. A member of staff from college will accompany the student on this visit.
- Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College commits to the programme of quality assurance drawn up by the Aspire Consortium to oversee the quality of Alternative Provision.

- The Alternative Provision of all students will be reviewed on a termly basis. Impact and success will be measured in terms of attendance, behaviour, attitude to learning and progress towards qualifications. There is an expectation that these are also on track in college as well.
- Any concerns from providers will be made to the college's Alternative Provision Co-Ordinator who will then liaise with the appropriate people in college. Pupils attending an alternative provision will be expected to adhere to a code of conduct as outlined by the individual provider. Pupils are expected to represent Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College positively through their behaviour and attitude and any breach of the college behaviour policy or provider's code of conduct could result in termination of the placement.
- The member of staff who oversees Alternative Provision is the Deputy Principal with responsibility for Key Stage 4.

Selecting students for Alternative Provision.

During the options process in Year 9 students indicate if they are interested in pursuing a vocational option such as hairdressing or construction. Opinions are sought on their suitability from the relevant Director of Studies, SENCO, Assistant Principal in charge of KS3 and the Deputy Principal in charge of KS4. Each student is interviewed by the college Alternative Provision Co-ordinator to find out why they want to choose this option. The Principal and the Deputy Principal make the final decision based on these comments in conjunction with attendance records, academic targets in Maths, English and Science and RONI data. Students and parents are then notified of the outcome.

Students may also be selected for Alternative Provision due to;

- Deterioration in their general attitude to learning. In this case Alternative Provision is used as a means to avoid a permanent exclusion for the student. This happens only after all other interventions have failed. Parents are informed at the start of the application process and updated on a regular basis.
- Health issues which are preventing them from accessing an in college curriculum.
- Their educational needs are not being met through the National Curriculum.
- Poor attendance at college and as a result poor achievement.

Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College will regularly review the use of alternative provision to ensure that individual programmes are demonstrating value for money against pupil progress and outcomes.

Reviewed 12 November 2015