



# Hospital Teaching Service

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[www.meritpru-stoke.org.uk](http://www.meritpru-stoke.org.uk)



## **Aims**

‘To provide access to appropriate education for all children and young people with medical needs, keeping education alive in the student’s life, maintaining progress and enabling them to achieve their potential, whilst in the hospital.’

Education has been provided for children and young people in the Royal Stoke University Hospital for a number of years through MERIT. The purpose built classroom within the children’s ward opened in March 2012.

## **Staff**

The hospital teaching staff are fully qualified with both Primary and Secondary experience. In addition, staff also work closely with the play therapists and play assistants who can also provide additional support when appropriate.

## **Who is it for?**

Hospital teaching is provided for children who are:

Long stay patients

Frequently recurring patients

Short stay patients who are taking statutory tests or examinations

The classroom is open daily during term time and is well-equipped; providing tuition for students between the ages of 4-16 years. Wherever possible, children will be encouraged to attend the classroom. However, children who are immobile or vulnerable to infection can be taught at the bedside.

## **Why is it provided?**

It is important that children in hospital keep up with the work of their peers wherever possible. This work helps to build a sense of achievement and self confidence and provide the reassurance of familiar activities at what can be a very stressful time in a child’s life.

## **The Curriculum**

All school aged children at the Royal Stoke University Hospital who attend the hospital classroom, will access a broad and balanced curriculum within the framework of the National Curriculum. The core subjects of English and Maths are taught at an appropriate level for each child.

Every attempt is made to ensure that learning is engaging and enjoyable. In addition, children will have access to technology such as laptops, iPads and an interactive whiteboard in order to enhance their learning experience.

## **Hospital/School Liaison**

Teaching is focused on the core curriculum with additional cross-curricular topic work. For children who are in hospital for longer periods of time, the teacher will liaise with the child's own school in order to personalise their learning and limit disruption to their education.

## **Events days**

Every term, the hospital teaching service is involved in specific event day. This can be a visitor, a key event or celebration of a special day. Previous event days have included an Aboriginal art day and Shrove Tuesday. These events give a focus for the term as a short term project and ensure that learning is fun. Visitors to the classroom have enjoyed using the sensory equipment, provided for a special day by Rhino.UK.

## **Ofsted**

Partnerships with other schools and with parents and families are outstanding, and parents say that "the lives of their children have been turned around."



## Additional services offered by MERIT for student's with medical needs

Home tuition

Personal tuition

Pupil Referral Unit

Outreach

All of these services can be arranged in co-operation with the student's home school.



For more information please contact:-

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University Hospitals   
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust