



Archbishop Beck Catholic College

Alternative Provision Policy

POLICY STATEMENT

Context of Policy

The College philosophy is for students to begin their education journey in year 7 at Archbishop Beck and for that to continue until they leave at the end of year 13. The College actively seeks not to permanently excluded students

Alternative provision is educational provision for students who are unable to access mainstream education for a number of different reasons, or who are unsuited to the mainstream provision on offer.

The college recognises that there is a need to ensure that our curriculum is inclusive and accessible, providing opportunities for all students to succeed. Moreover, we recognise the need to offer the type of provision that allows some students to achieve their potential outside of what is accessible at Archbishop Beck Catholic College.

To facilitate this individual learning pathway, Archbishop Beck Catholic College works with different local providers to help students who have struggled to reach their potential in a college based environment to succeed.

Objectives of this Policy

The objectives of this policy are:

- To outline the reasons why students might be offered alternative provision.
- To ensure that alternative provision is offered to suitable students in a consistent way.
- To provide guidance on the referral process and the suitability of alternative providers.
- To ensure there are suitable procedures in place relating to attendance and the safeguarding of students when under the care of alternative providers.
- To outline the arrangements in place for keeping in touch with students to monitor academic progress, behaviour and pastoral welfare.
- To guide and support staff with the monitoring and support of alternative provision.

Reasons why we might offer Alternative Provision

Students will be referred to Alternative Provision on the basis that this provision is more appropriate for them than what Archbishop Beck Catholic College can provide. Some reasons might be:

- The student's strengths are not being developed through the National Curriculum. Alternative provision recognises that students have different strengths and weaknesses and that mainstream education is not suitable for some. The emphasis on vocational education that some alternative provision offers may be more attractive and suitable to some students.
- The student is considered to be at risk of permanent exclusion from college. Alternative provision is seen as a desirable alternative to permanent exclusion for students and to encourage their continued inclusion in education.
- The student has not been attending college regularly, and is therefore unlikely to achieve a positive destination in the next stage of their education. Alternative provision offers a different setting with a broader choice of subjects for students which may encourage attendance. Alternative provision may provide a greater opportunity for a student to progress to a suitable post-16 pathway.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Governing Body will:

- Monitor the implementation of the Alternative Provision Policy and review it on a regular basis.

Headteacher will:

- Take overall responsibility for the college's use of alternative provision for certain students.
- Report to the Governing Body on the effectiveness of the implementation of the Alternative Provision Policy.

Senior Leadership Team will:

- Understand and comply with the guidelines detailed within the Alternative Provision Policy and other related documents.

Inclusion and Intervention Manager:

- Ensure that the alternative provider is registered and approved and that they have relevant policies in place to cover Safeguarding, Child Protection and Health & Safety.
- Continually assess the quality and suitability of providers of alternative education for our students.
- Arrange for the appointment of an appropriate member of staff to attend meetings relating to student referrals and conduct regular progress visits to the alternative provider.
- Liaise with the Designated Safeguarding Lead, SENCO, Examinations and Data Manager, Attendance, and other relevant staff to ensure that the appropriate measures are in place to support students who are being educated in an alternative setting.
- Undertake periodic visits to the alternative provision sites to review the progress of the relevant students, as requested by the Senior Leadership Team.
- Decide, in collaboration with the Senior Leadership Team, on the appropriate course of action if informed of any serious behavioural incidents by an alternative provider.

Attendance Officer will:

- Monitor attendance of students referred to alternative providers and update records on a daily basis.
- Provide attendance updates to the Inclusion and intervention Manager, Progress Managers and SLT.

Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENCO) will:

- If appropriate, provide details of provision mapping and other relevant information to the alternative provider to cater for the special educational needs of students.

Finance Department will:

- Handle the payment process in relation to alternative provision as authorised by the Headteacher or person with budget holder responsibility.

Suitability of Providers – LA vetted / approved – all providers used are on the LA approved list

- Archbishop Beck Catholic College independent referral is able to access a variety of alternative provision placements and there should always be a clear rationale in place to ensure that this provision will allow the student to make good academic progress.
- The college aims to continually assess the quality and suitability of the providers of alternative education for our students. Where possible the college uses Ofsted regulated providers.
- It is the responsibility of Archbishop Beck Catholic College to ensure that the alternative provider is registered and approved and that they have relevant policies in place to cover Child Protection and Health & Safety.
- All students who are referred to alternative provision will have access to a core curriculum, as well as an alternative curriculum covering a broader range of other subjects.
- All the qualifications they receive will be nationally recognised and enable progression to further education.

Referral Process

- The college will use DfE publication Alternative Provision: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities (January 2013) as a basis for making arrangements for alternative provision.
- Parents / carers will be fully involved in the process and any decisions taken.
- Students who are referred to alternative provision will remain on roll with Archbishop Beck Catholic College and the college funds their place in alternative provision. The college remains ultimately responsible for the student, and the offer of alternative provision shows a commitment by the college to an inclusive approach to the student's education.
- Archbishop Beck Catholic College will set up a meeting involving all relevant parties, including parents/carers and others as appropriate.
- A representative from the college will clearly explain to student and his / her parents / carers the reasons why the alternative provision is being offered.

- The student's parents / carers will sign the relevant alternative provision documentation.
- Once committed to alternative provision, students must attend and parents / carers must support this. Failure to do so will carry the same consequences as non-attendance at Archbishop Beck Catholic College.
- Where necessary, the college will formulate a Service Level Agreement between the college and the alternative provider.

Attendance and Safeguarding

- All professionals have a statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and tracking and reporting attendance at alternative provision is an essential component in achieving this.
- Attendance at off-site alternative provision will be monitored closely and every step should be taken to ensure that accurate attendance data is kept by Archbishop Beck Catholic College.
- Alternative providers will contact Archbishop Beck Catholic College daily to report attendance.
- Archbishop Beck Catholic College will formally monitor attendance and update records and maintain contact with the alternative provider on a daily basis.

Monitoring Academic Progress, Behaviour and Pastoral Welfare

- Periodic reports will be completed by the alternative provider as part of the monitoring process.
- The student will be visited on a regular basis by an appropriate staff member from Archbishop Beck Catholic College. This will be logged on CPOMS.
- The student's own views on the placement will be taken into account as part of the monitoring process.

The College actively engages with other local schools to support a managed move process. The College adopts the Local Authority Social Inclusion documentation to ensure a smooth transition and with the correct support in place, for a student to be successful in their new placement.