

SUBJECT: HOME TUTORING (TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION)

Resident children attending public or non-public schools who qualify for home tutoring due to a long term illness or suspension shall be provided with such instruction in accordance with New York State Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations.

Administrative Guidelines

Definition

Home teaching in the Belfast Central School may take one of two forms: the use of web-based instructional programs, or the use of certified teachers to go into the home to work on a one-to-one basis with the student, or a combination.

Purpose

The purpose of home instruction is to aid the student who is unable to come to school for a legitimate medical purpose for an extended length of time to keep up with his/her school work to enable him or her, if possible, to progress with his/her class.

Authority and Responsibility

Home instruction will be under the authority and will be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools, who shall determine what instruction is appropriate in each case. The school nurse teacher, Committee on Special Education, and/or the school principal shall refer and recommend to the Superintendent of Schools all students in need of home teaching. Final clearance before beginning instruction shall be authorized by the Superintendent of Schools for application.

Medical Recommendation

Home instruction will not be provided except on the recommendation of a physician or psychiatrist who certifies that the student is physically or emotionally unable to attend school, indicates that the prognosis is for a long period of absence, and recommends home instruction.

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Teachers

Certified teachers will be used for home tutoring whenever possible. Whenever possible, the student's regular teacher will be employed to do the home tutoring.

Days and Hours for Home Tutoring

Pursuant to state regulations, home tutoring may not be provided on any day other than a regular school day.

- a) At the elementary school level, each such student shall receive at least five (5) hours of instruction per week. To the extent possible, at least one (1) hour of instruction shall be provided each day.
- b) At the secondary school level, each such student shall receive as least ten (10) hours of instruction per week. To the extent possible, at least two (2) hours of instruction shall be provided each day.

However, the Superintendent of Schools may, at his/her discretion, provide more in extraordinary cases.

Length of Incapacity

Home instruction will be provided, upon medical recommendation and school approval, to any student who is determined to be confined and unable to attend regular instruction for a period of at least four (4) weeks. In exceptional cases when compelling reasons would make home instruction especially desirable and necessary, home instruction may be provided for a period of less than four weeks confinement. In no case, however, will home instruction be provided until a student has been absent for a minimum of two (2) weeks.

Parent Responsibility

Home tutoring is contingent upon parental cooperation. A responsible adult family member must be present in the home when tutoring is provided.

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Education Law Sections 1604(20), 1709(24), 3202,
and 4401
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations
(NYCRR) Section 175.21

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