

NATCHAUG HOSPITAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

TITLE: SCHOOL SUSPENSION

Policy#: 1.18

Section: Community Programs

Subsection: School Programs

Scope:

Natchaug Hospital school programs.

Policy:

It is the policy of the Natchaug Hospital Schools that a student may be suspended from school under certain conditions.

Procedure:

Out of School Suspension (OSS):

Suspensions are only to be used in emergency situations when a student engages in an incident that risks the physical safety of self and/or others, and additional time is needed to plan for the student's return, or for a pattern of disruption to the school community that risks the safety, health, and welfare of others and was not able to be resolved using therapeutic interventions. In this situation, a planning and placement team (PPT) meeting will be scheduled within 10 days with the sending district. Natchaug Hospital Schools does not use suspension solely for disciplinary measures and when all other options have been exhausted.

If the suspension does not result in a PPT, students may be required to participate in a reentry meeting upon returning from an OSS. Stakeholders may be reminded of the school expectations and continually encouraged through the use of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports.

In School Suspension (ISS):

Students may earn up to a six-hour (one school day) period of ineligibility for earning behavior points. ISS is defined as exclusion from the classroom for a duration of a single class period or up to 90 minutes without the permission to return, and may be earned for either a severe, or repeated, violation of the School behavior expectations schoolwide expectations. Examples include physical aggression, extreme or continued non-compliance, property damage, etc. ISS is served in a separate location within the school site and under constant staff supervision. Students are expected to have access to individualized education plan (IEP) services and complete assigned academic tasks during the ISS time and to process the reason for this intervention. Following a day of ISS, students return to school on regular status.

The incident will be documented, and the Parent/Guardian and school district will be notified when a student earns ISS.

Out of School Suspension (OSS):

Students may earn an OSS for extreme violations of the Natchaug Hospital rules and expectations. Behaviors that contribute to an unsafe school environment for staff and students are most likely to result

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in OSS. Following OSS, and processing of the incident leading to the consequence, students return to class on regular status.

- Students are informed of the school expectations for behavior upon entering the school program. They are continually encouraged through the use of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports.
- If a student has an alternate response identified on his or her IEP to a behavior, a suspension may not be issued.
- The Director of School Programs (or designee) must approve all recommendations for ISS and OSS. Unless an emergency situation exists, the student will have the opportunity to explain their side perception of the situation once a suspension is issued.
- OSS status is reported to the student's parent/guardian, LEA, and surrogate parent (if appointed), within a 12-hour period.
- A written record of each suspension (ISS & OSS) is filed in the student's educational file, and a copy is sent to the parent/guardian and district within 24 hours.
- If a district indicates that a PPT must be convened to discuss the student's needs, no further OSS may be issued until the team meets.
- In the event that a student's behavior warrants repeated suspensions (e.g. repeated incidents of highly aggressive and/or disruptive behavior), a PPT will meet to discuss the needs of the student and to develop an appropriate plan before cumulative OSS equal 10 days. A student will not be subject to OSS for more than 10 cumulative days without a PPT meeting to review and/or revise the IEP.

Issued: 11/2023

Replaces:

Revised: