

Homebound Instruction

Homebound and/or hospitalized instruction shall be provided only when the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) finds that one or more of the following conditions applies:

1. The child's treating physician has certified in writing, on a form provided by the District, that the child is unable to attend school due to verifiable medical reasons with supporting documentation and has stated the expected date the child will be able to return to the school program.
2. The child's treating physician has consulted with the Director of Special Services and has determined that attendance at school with reasonable accommodations is not feasible.
3. The child's treating physician has determined the child will be absent from school for at least ten (10) school days or the child's condition is such that he/she may be required to be absent from school for short repeated periods of time during the school year.
4. The child's treating physician has specified the date the student will be able to return to school.

Necessary Conditions

Homebound and/or hospitalized instruction shall be provided when a child's condition will cause an absence from school for at least ten (10) consecutive school days, or the child's condition is such that he/she may be absent for short, repeated periods of time. Provided nothing in the child's condition precludes it, such instruction shall begin no later than the eleventh (11th) day of absence from school. The Bethany Public School District (District) may begin such instruction earlier. If the treating physician determines the child cannot receive instruction, the treating physician shall inform the District in writing when instruction may begin.

Time and Place

Instruction for a student unable to attend school for medical reasons shall begin no later than the eleventh (11th) day of absence from school, provided the District has received the required written documentation from the student's treating physician. The District, if provided with adequate notice prior to the child's absence from school, may begin instruction earlier than the eleventh (11th) day of absence. If the student's condition is such that he/she cannot receive instruction, the treating physician shall determine when instruction can begin and will notify the District in writing.

Instruction for a student with a disability who is medically complex shall begin no later than the third (3rd) day of absence provided the student is medically able to receive instruction.

Homebound and hospitalized instruction shall be provided for at least one (1) hour per day or five (5) hours per week for children in grades Kindergarten through Six (6) and at least two (2) hours per day or ten (10) hours per week. Instruction for pre-school children eligible for special education will be for an amount of time determined appropriate by the PPT. Where evaluative data indicates that these time requirements should be modified, the PPT may increase or decrease instruction time or upon the agreement of the parent and the District. Instruction shall be provided in the setting of the child's home or the hospital to which the child is confined, or in any other agreed upon location, provided an adult is present. The District may also offer such instruction in sites such as the town library taking into consideration the medical condition of the student.

Instruction provided shall maintain the continuity of the student's general education program. In the case of a student with a disability, provided instruction is to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum and to progress towards meeting the goals and objectives contained in the student IEP.

Disabled Child with a Disability who is Medically Complex

The PPT will consider the educational needs of a student who is medically complex and the need for instruction to be provided in accordance with an IEP when such student is unable to attend school due to medical reasons. The PPT will consider and make accommodation for the student's program to be moved from the school setting to a home or health care facility, including but not limited to, a hospital, psychiatric facility or rehabilitation center, and back to school when the student is able to return.

"Medically complex" means a student who has a serious, ongoing illness or chronic condition for at least a year and requires prolonged or intermittent hospitalization and ongoing invasive medical treatments or medical devices to compensate for the loss of bodily functions.

Dispute Resolution

In the event there is a dispute regarding the basis upon which the student's treating physician has asserted the need for instruction, the student shall receive instruction pending review of the documentation provided by the said physician by the District's Medical Advisor employed by the Board of Education who is qualified to review the submitted documentation.

The student's parent/guardian is required to consent to the District's Medical Advisor speak with the treating physician to confirm the need for instruction. The Board of Education is not required to begin instruction until such consent is provided.

Consultation with the student's treating physician shall include a review of educational and medical records and, if appropriate, accommodations and school health services that can be provided to the student enabling him/her to attend school safely.

Content of Services

Instruction is to be provided in the subjects necessary to maintain the continuity of the student's general education program. This includes instruction in the core academic subjects (reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) required for promotion. Such instruction must be provided to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum and/or make progress toward IEP goals and objectives.

Regulation approved: June 10, 2015

Regulation revised: January 8, 2019

REQUEST FOR HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

General Data (to be completed by parent/guardian)

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Please check one: Regular Education Special Education

Parent/ Name: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY TREATING PHYSICIAN

A. Diagnosis (attach supporting documentation): _____

B. Estimated Duration: _____

C. Degree of Restriction:

1. School Attendance:

- No Restrictions
- Part-time Attendance – Explain _____
- Hospital Placement
- Homebound Tutoring
- Grade K-6, no less than one hour day or 5 hours per week (may be modified with parent/guardian and Board of Education or PPT agreement/action)

2. Transportation:

- Regular School Service
- Special Bus
- Special Bus with Wheelchair Access
- Not Applicable

D. Recommendations/Comments to Assist the School

- I have consulted with the District Medical Advisor and have determined that attendance at school for this child with reasonable accommodations is not feasible.
- I have concluded that this child is unable to attend school due to verifiable medical reason(s).
- This child will be absent from school for at least ten (10) consecutive school days or the child's condition is such that he/she may be absent for short, repeated periods of time.
- This child is expected to be able to return to school on _____.

Physician Name (please print): _____ Date: _____

Physician Address: _____

Physician Phone Number: _____

Physician Signature: _____