



Harmeny Education Trust Period Products (Free Provision) – Statement on Exercise of Functions

The Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021 was passed by the Parliament on 24 November 2020 and received Royal Assent on 12 January 2021. The Act requires all education providers to ensure period products can be obtained free of charge by pupils and students.

The Act states that each education provider must ensure that:

- Period products are available free of charge, as and when required in all buildings which are normally used by pupils and students.
- Period products are reasonably easy to access, whilst ensuring preservation of dignity and respect; recipients should not have to ask for products or justify why they are needed and there should be no limit place on the number of products recipients can receive.
- A reasonable choice of product is made available.

Current Provision

With the funding made available by the Scottish Government, Harmeny Education Trust provides period products to all those who need them. We ensure that:

- All period products are provided free of charge and easy to obtain, with a choice of single use and reusable products (two types of tampons, two type of sanitary pads and one reusable product).
- Products are available in at least one toilet within each building. Products are available all year round within each residential cottage and in each toilet within the administration buildings used by staff and also accessible to young people under supervision.
- Student consultation and engagement is carried out on an ongoing basis with our children and young people on a one to one basis. Each child/young person has a key worker/carer who looks after their individual needs. Arrangements for the supply of period products are made following individual discussion with each child/young person and are provided in a way that is most comfortable for them. The children/ young people are asked which products they would like and are given a personal supply based on their requirements. There is no limit to the number of products a child/young person can access.
- Our children/young people receive Health & Wellbeing education through Curriculum for Excellence which includes education on Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP). The Education Team liaise with our Care Team regularly on this subject, for our key worker/carers to facilitate follow up discussions with each child/young person when required.
- Information on the scheme is communicated effectively internally as described above through one to one personal discussions with each child/young person on an ongoing basis. Due to the residential care environment and the type of care we provide at Harmeny, bathrooms are shared by both male and female students, therefore supplies are not out on display. Supplies, however, are available within each building.

Products are also available in all toilets within each of the office areas used by staff.

Supplies are regularly ordered and delivered by the City of Edinburgh Council. Our domestic staff, together with care and education staff, monitor and replenish stocks regularly.

Our Commitment

Through our ongoing discussions with our children/young people, Harmeny Education Trust is committed to maintaining the current provision. We will continue to promote this service and include our pupils and staff in ongoing discussion to evaluate uptake and performance and ensure we have the best options available to meet student needs.

Mandy Shiel
Head of Education
15/3/23