

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Releasing Potential School



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1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for pupils on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- Pupils, staff and parents/carers understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#).

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and scheme of delegation

Policy is informed by [Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

3. Responsibilities of the school

3.1 If the school makes the arrangements

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

- The Curriculum Lead will be responsible for making arrangements and regular monitoring
- Arrangements that may be made are: work sent home, online virtual sessions. This list is not exhaustive and every effort will be made to provide students with ongoing work and support
- Parents will be consulted at the planning stage of making arrangements and will be regularly contacted to gather their views on progress
- Students will be reintegrated into school through a phased return agreed between the school, student and parents

3.2 If the local authority makes the arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Hampshire or West Sussex local authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

- Where possible, the child's health needs should be managed by the home school so that they can continue to be educated there with support, and without the need for the intervention of the local authority. However, as soon as it is clear that the home school can no longer support the child's health needs and provide suitable education, the school should speak to the local authority about putting alternative provision in place.
- If a child will be away from school for 15 days or more because of their health needs, the local authority should arrange suitable alternative provision. The 15 days may be consecutive or over the course of a school year.

- The process for referring a child to the local authority

In cases where the local authority makes the arrangements, the school will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers to ensure the best outcomes for the pupil
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the pupil is as effective as possible and that the child can be reintegrated back into school successfully
- When reintegration is anticipated, work with the local authority to:
 - Plan for consistent provision during and after the period of education outside the school, allowing the pupil to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible
 - Enable the pupil to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school)
 - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school
 - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

Governing boards should make sure that arrangements are in place in the school to support students with medical conditions

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5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- [Accessibility Policy .docx](#)
- [Child Protection Policy 2024.25.docx](#)
- [Safeguarding Policy 2024.25.docx](#)
- [Equality-diversity-and-inclusion-staff policy.docx](#)