



Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

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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 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](#).

Click [here](#) for the link to DfE guidance on ensuring a good education even when health needs prevent attendance at school. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

The continuity of educational provision for children and young people with additional health needs (published by Wiltshire Council) can be read by clicking [here](#).

3. The responsibilities of the school

At all times, the pupil remains the responsibility of the school where they are on roll. In line with Government guidance Wiltshire schools must:

- Have a policy and named person responsible for dealing with pupils unable to attend school because of their medical needs;
- Keep the pupil on roll and include them in any planning;
- Provide work and materials if pupils are absent for up to 15 school days;
- Co-ordinate, implement and review Individual Health Care Plans / Personal Education Plans, be active in the monitoring of pupils who may attend school for partial days and monitor the progress and reintegration into school of those who have been absent because of their medical needs, liaising with other agencies as necessary;
- Draw up an Individual Health Care Plan / Personal Education Plan for any pupil with diagnosed medical conditions to be reviewed at least annually in continuing partnership with the pupil, parents and professionals;



- Ensure that pupils who have SEN but do not have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) have their SEN mentioned in their Individual Health Plan / Personal Education Plan;
- Ensure that pupils who are unable to attend school because of medical needs are kept informed about school social events and are able to participate. Examples of these are homework clubs, study support and other activities;
- Ensure that arrangements are made for pupils who are due to undertake public examinations, including assistance with scribing, alternative venue and submission of mitigation where appropriate;
- Encourage and facilitate liaison with peers for example through visits, use of Information Technology and social events.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

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

- The Headteacher will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements
- Arrangements could be made (e.g. sending work home, hospital schools, using Google Classroom)
- The school will consult parents and children about these arrangements to find the best provision and keep it under constant review
- Reintegrate of pupils back into school will happen in consultation with parents considering timescales, reduced timetables, keeping-in-touch days, attending social events as required

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, or indeed the trust (Somerset Road Education Trust), Wiltshire Council may become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. The school will work closely with officials to determine:

- if arrangements are 'suitable'
- How many days a child would need to be absent from school
- The process for referring a child to the local authority

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

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents 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 Local Governing Committee.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Remote Education Policy