

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

DRAFT

Approved by: New Policy

Date:

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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](#).

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

3. The responsibilities of the school

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.

Depending on the need of the pupil, the following will be arranged

- Pastoral Team together with the Attendance Officer will be in regular contact with the parent/carer and pupil, medical evidence to be obtained.
- Local Authority and school Attendance Officer to apply school attendance policy.
- The absence rate of the pupil should be highlighted in line with school attendance policy and how many days a child would need to be absent from school. Although each situation and need is different the absence monitoring will ensure the pupil is identified quickly and support put in place expediently
- A care plan will be put in place in consultation with all professionals (ie school nurse, Local Authority Attendance Officer, external agencies, hospital school)
- Identify the support required (ie virtual learning, provision of resources).
- A reduced timetable/curriculum can be discussed to aid reintegration
- Access to the LSU could be considered as part of the reintegration process
- Educational Psychology Assessment could be undertaken if appropriate
- Refer to Fair Access Panel (FAP) for advice support

3.2 If the Local Authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Greenwich Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

Greenwich Council would take over responsibility, if the following need occurs as:

- Medical professionals provide written evidence that it is detrimental to the pupil's health for them to attend St Ursula's and requires a bespoke delivery not available through St Ursula's. (ie Specialist unit, small provider)
- The process of delivery would be through the Behaviour and Inclusion Team at the LA

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

- 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 AHT with responsibility for overseeing attendance. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

This policy is statutory and should be reviewed annually by full Governors.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Attendance
- Safeguarding
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- SEN
- Health and Safety