



Policy for Supporting Pupils with Health Needs who Cannot Attend School

Document History

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May 2020	Draft Policy – consultation with governors
May 2020	Approved
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Any reference to parents in this document refers to any adult defined as such by the 1996 Education Act.

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 states that a ‘parent’, in relation to a child or young person, includes any person who is not a parent (from which can be inferred ‘biological parent’) but who has parental responsibility, or who has care of the child.

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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](#).

3. The responsibilities of the school

Guidance from Hounslow LA (Annita Cornish)

Woodbridge Park Education Service (WPES) is commissioned by the LA to provide continuing education for children who are too ill or have a medical reason, which prevents them from attending school if it is going to be longer than 15 consecutive days. Schools are expected to provide support prior to this, usually by sending work home.

As stated in the guidance ‘Supporting Medical Needs in School’ the main responsibilities are with schools with the support of medical professionals as required.

To make a referral email cate@woodbridgepark.hounslow.sch.uk

Supporting guidance can also be found in the https://fsd.hounslow.gov.uk/synergyweb/local_offer/Health_guide_for_schools.aspx

3.1 School arrangements

Following LA guidance, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school for the first 15 consecutive days of absence.

After consulting with parents, and if it is appropriate to do so, the class teacher will provide packs of work, which can be completed at home. These may include activities to be completed online using resources purchased by the school.

The class teacher will discuss with parents the most effective way to communicate with both them and the pupil and how they will provide feedback on work completed. Any concerns that arise should be referred to a senior member of staff.

When a pupil is due to return to school it may be necessary to draw up a Health Care Plan, this will be undertaken by the SENCo in consultation with parents, the pupil and the class teacher.

In a case where the absence is extending beyond 15 days a senior member of staff will make a referral (as above) in consultation with the class teacher.

3.2 Local Authority Arrangements

Following LA guidance WPES will be commissioned to provide continuing education to pupils who are prevented from attending school for more than 15 consecutive days through illness or a medical condition.

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 every two years (unless required to do so sooner) by the Pastoral Committee of the Governing Body.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- › Accessibility plan
- › Supporting pupils with medical conditions