

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy 2022/2023



Approved by: Martin Willis

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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

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on maintained schools and academies to make arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions.

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

It 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.

For a short-term absence, this might mean sending some work home to complete. This will be as closely matched to the work being completed by the child's class as possible. We may also look at setting work electronically, either via email or via Google Classroom.

This will be provided by your child's class teacher and overseen/monitored by the SENCO.

Parents will be contacted by phone and/or email to discuss these arrangements.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Norfolk County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

If there is longer term absences (i.e. 15 days or more) the Local Authority (Norfolk County Council) may offer educational provision via the Medical Needs Service.

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 Catherine Lorne/Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- SEN Policy