



Middlewich Primary School

Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy



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 following:

- [Education Act 1996](#)
- Equality Act 2010
- DfE Statutory guidance [Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions](#)
- DfE guidance [Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)
- It also based on [guidance provided by our local authority](#).

3. The responsibilities of the school

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

The Head Teacher and SENDCO will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements. A meeting will be made with parents / carers to discuss arrangements for working from home or hospital. A plan will be drawn up detailing agreed actions from the discussion, the plan will be signed by school and parents/carers. The plan will then be carried out to deliver education to the child.

Arrangements could include sending work home or delivering remote lessons. The work will be prepared by class teachers.

The pupil will be slowly integrated back into school with either alternative arrangements to make it possible such as alternative provision for break or lunch times or the pupil may come back into school on a reduced timetable until their health needs have been met.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

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3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Cheshire East will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

In these cases, the LA should:

- Provide such education as soon as it is clear that a pupil will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative. They should liaise with the appropriate medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the pupil. Ensure the education pupils receive is of good quality, allows them to take appropriate qualifications, prevents them from falling behind their peers in school, and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible.

Schools can make referrals to the Medical Needs Service using the Medical Needs Referral form (MN1A). Schools fill in Part A and this must be supported by medical evidence (Part B) from one of the following health professionals:

- consultant paediatrician or adolescent psychiatrist
- consultant child psychiatrist
- hospital consultant

The referrals are discussed at an allocations meeting (held fortnightly during term time). If the case meets the criteria set out in our policy the student will be allocated a tutor and a member of the team will contact parent/carers to arrange an initial meeting with all parties and put the tuition in place.

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 the Pupil Welfare, Curriculum and Partnerships Committee. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

Approved by: Full Governing Board

Date: November 2023

Last reviewed on: May 2023

Next review due by: November 2024