



Children with Health Needs who cannot attend School Policy

Statutory or non-statutory	Statutory
Reviewed by	SENCo
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Contents

1. Aims	1
2. Legislation and guidance	1
3. The responsibilities of the school	2
4. Monitoring arrangements	3
5. Links to other policies	3

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/carers 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:

- Section 19 of the Education Act 1996
- Equality Act 2010

- Department for Education: Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs 2013.

3. The responsibilities of the school

The Local Authority is responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for children who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. There will however, be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the Local Authority, for example, where the child can still attend school with some support. Where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child; or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in a hospital by an on-site hospital school, we would not expect the Local Authority to become involved in such arrangements unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable or, while otherwise suitable, was not full-time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health. This might be the case where, for example, the child can attend school but only intermittently.

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. Parents/carers should inform their child's class teacher or SENCo as soon as possible if they believe their child will not be able to attend school due to health needs. Parents/carers can do this by speaking to the relevant member of staff in person, by telephoning the school office or by e-mailing the school office or year group e-mail. School and home will work in partnership to agree suitable provision for the child learning at home. This would likely be via the school's Google Classroom remote learning offer. By using Google Classroom, the child's class teacher will be able to:

- Set tasks and learning that mirrors what is being delivered in classroom
- Assess work submitted by the pupil and provide feedback to the pupil
- Maintain communication between home and school
- Support interaction between the child and their peers in school where appropriate

School, with parent/carer consent, may also submit a Havering Inclusions Gateway Referral to access the local authority tuition offer for children who are unable to attend school due to health reasons which can be delivered alongside school support.

School and families will also work in partnership to agree an appropriate re-integration to the classroom. This could include arranging visits to site and/or a phased return.

3.2 If the Local Authority makes arrangements

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, Havering Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. This can be done via the Havering Inclusions Gateway Referral process.

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

- Work constructively with the Local Authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers 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 interaction through Google Classroom)
- 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 SENCo. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governing Body.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Plan
- SEN Policy
- SEN Information Report
- Supporting Pupils and Staff with Medical Conditions Policy