

**Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy**

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| **Approved by:** | Carrie Matthews | **Date:** October 2020 |
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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](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/section/19).

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

# 3. The responsibilities of the Local Authority

The DfE Guidance January 2013 states LAs must:

1. LAs are responsible for arranging suitable full-time

education for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would not receive suitable education without such provision. This applies whether or not the child is on the roll of a school and whatever the type of school they attend. It applies to children who are pupils in Academies, Free Schools,special schools and independent schools as well as those in maintained schools.

2. The law does not define full-time education but children with health needs should have provision which is equivalent to the education they would receive in school. If they receive one-to-one tuition, for example, the hours of face-to-face provision could be fewer as the provision is more concentrated.

3. Where full-time education would not be in the best interests of a particular child because of reasons relating to their physical or mental health, LAs should provide part-time education on a basis they consider to be in the child's best interests. Full and part-time education should still aim to achieve good academic attainment particularly in English, Maths and Science.

4. The LA should:

Have a named officer responsible for the education of children with additional health needs, and parents should know who that person is. Have a written, publicly accessible policy statement on their arrangements to comply with their legal duty towards children with additional health needs. The policy should make links with related services in the area - for example, Special Educational Needs and Disability Services (SEND), Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services(CAMHS), Education Welfare/Attendance Improvement Services, educational psychologists, and, where relevant, school nurses. Review the provision offered regularly to ensure that it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education. Have clear policies on the provision.

**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.

* Who in your school will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements- The Headteacher and SENDCo
* What sort of arrangements could be made - remote lessons/interventions, sending work home, use of google classrooms to set work, hospital schools, home visits
* How you’ll consult parents and children about these arrangements - through personalised meetings to discuss and make a plan
* How you’ll reintegrate pupils back into school

**3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements**

If the school can’t make suitable arrangements, Milton Keynes Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

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 Carrie Matthews. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board on an annual basis.

# 5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

* Accessibility plan
* Supporting pupils with medical conditions
* Remote Learning