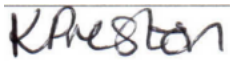


Policy/Procedure Name:	CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY		
Last Update:	August 2024	Next Update Due:	April 2027

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Signature of Authorised Individual	
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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](#).

It also based on guidance provided by our local authorities.

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.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

In the first instance, the class teacher will be responsible for providing this support with guidance from the SENDCo and Deputy Head teacher. Class work will be sent on a weekly basis to the child's home (if they are at home) or sent to the hospital school if they are still accessing this provision.

In the case of the child accessing the hospital school provision, the class teacher will liaise with the hospital teacher to support the learning.

Weekly check-ins with the family will be offered to ensure that the work is pitched at the correct level and that it is supporting the well-being of the child.

When the child is due to return to school, there will be an agreed, personal transition package to ensure a steady and successful re-integration back to school. This will be agreed by parents, school, medical staff and the child. It will be reviewed weekly.



3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, the home Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

When children and young people are unable to attend school due to illness, Section 19 of the Education Act 1966 requires local education authorities to provide 'suitable education'. This applies to children and young people who cannot attend their own school for an extended period because of their illness.

In **Warwickshire** this provision is made in three ways which form a continuum of provision.

- Hospital teaching – This service is usually provided by hospitals outside Warwickshire. Warwickshire is then recharged for this provision.
- Teaching at home or in small community settings (**not Elective Home Education**) – for children and young people who, because of their health need, are unable to attend the school setting. This service can be provided by the [Flexible Learning Team](#).
- Support for reintegration to school for children and young people who are recovering from illness, and it has been agreed by the appropriate agencies that they are unable to attend school full-time. This support will be planned in partnership with the school. It will be phased, monitored and, in the interest of achieving a successful reintegration, time limited. This service can be provided by the LA services including the [Specialist Teaching Service](#), [Integrated Disability Service](#) and/or the [Flexible Learning Team](#).

All Local Authorities have the same responsibility so, in the event that your child cannot attend school for an extended period of time due to their medical needs, we will contact the Inclusion service to seek advice. They will support the school to make the necessary arrangements, so that the child can still receive an education whilst they are too ill to attend school. The options available could include:

- School providing work at home
- Getting education at the hospital if they are in-patient, or

We may arrange education outside school that may include:

- home tuition
- access to a hospital school
- a Virtual School or
- any combination depending on the needs of your child

Where education is provided outside of school, families should have access to an education officer from the Local Authority. They will keep parents informed of the education offer, co-ordinate the education and reviews with the school/health/other agencies and enable support for the child to re-integrate back into school.

There is no charge to parents for receiving this support, as it falls within the statutory entitlement of a child's education in this country.

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 by the SENDCo.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Medical Needs (Administration of Medicine) Policy
- Special Education Needs and Disability Policy

Equality Statement

At Willow Park School, we actively seek to encourage equity and equality through our teaching. As such, we seek to advance the equality of opportunity between people who share any of the following characteristic:

- sex;
- ethnicity;
- disability;
- religion or belief;
- sexual orientation;
- gender reassignment;
- age;
- civil partnerships;
- pregnancy or maternity.

The use of stereotypes under any of the above headings will always be challenged.



Inclusion

Our school is an inclusive school. We aim to make all pupils feel included in all our activities. We try to make all our teaching fully inclusive. We recognise the entitlement of all pupils to a balanced, broadly-based curriculum. We have systems in place for early identification of barriers to their learning and participation so that they can engage in school activities with all other pupils. We acknowledge the need for high expectations and suitable targets for all children.