



Children with health needs who cannot attend school

September 2023

Approved by:	Governing Body	Date: 13 th September 2023
Last reviewed on:	September 2023	
Next review due by:	September 2024	

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 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. The headteacher would be the responsible person in school who would coordinate those arrangements. Depending on the length of the absence, the schools remote learning package would be provided to the parent/carers and this provision would be followed. Where required and necessary there could be weekly home visits, and there would be regular contact from the class teacher in order to monitor learning and progress.

On pupils return to school, depending on the nature of the illness, there may be a requirement for support to be put in place. This could include a reduced timetable initially, phasing back up to full time education over an agreed period. Other support would also be considered on a case by case basis.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Durham County Council 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 the SENCO. 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