
INVICTUS

Education Trust



Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Document Control and Version Control

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Contents

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

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 is also based on guidance provided by our local authority. The link to the guidance: The link to the Dudley LA guidance is <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/early-years-and-childcare/for-providers/supporting-children-with-medical-conditions/>

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Responsibilities of the school

We adhere to [DfE guidance](#) to ensure a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs.

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.

- Natalie Wills (Deputy Headteacher) will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements
- We will aim to do all we can to ensure children who cannot attend school due to their health needs are provided with a suitable education. This includes sending work home.
- We will consult with parents and pupils about these arrangements and ensure regular (at least weekly) telephone and/or email communication
- We will aim to reintegrate the child to school as soon as they are able. This will be led by each individual circumstance.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Dudley LA will also become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils. In line with DfE guidance, the child must receive suitable full-time education (or as much education as the child's health condition allows) and be suitable for their age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs or disabilities they may have.

Local authorities should help to provide such education as soon as it is clear that the child will be away from school for 20 consecutive sessions (over the course of one academic year and is attributable to one illness or condition). They should liaise with appropriate medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the child.

Local authorities should ensure that the education they receive is of good quality, as defined in the Department for Education's statutory guidance Alternative Provision (2013), allows them to take appropriate qualifications, prevents them from slipping behind their peers in school and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible.

Schools will work in partnership with their local authority to address the needs of individual pupils in arranging provision.

Natalie Wills (nwills@leasowes.dudley.sch.uk) will be responsible for making a referral to the school's local authority.

Jane Dickens (Jane.Dickens@dudley.gov.uk) at Dudley LA

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

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies, parents and 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 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 Natalie Wills (Deputy Headteacher). At every review, it will be approved by the Trust Board (template) and Executive (Bespoke)

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Attendance policy