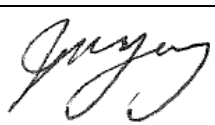




Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

15/06/2021

Version Control

Review Date	Version number	Reviewer/Owner (post holder)	Approved by (Committee)	Signature
June 2022	V1	Assistant Principal	LAB	

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1. Introduction

The Trust intends and expects that all decisions around the use of Trust resources will be underpinned at all times by its vision and values:

Our aim:

To create centres of educational excellence that inspire all pupils to turn their potential into performance

To achieve this our schools will:

Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that allows pupils to develop their talents and ambitions

Deliver the highest quality learning opportunities facilitated by excellent teachers

Inspire our pupils to become confident, motivated and respectful individuals ready to make a positive contribution to society

The Trust will support our schools by:

Maximising the resources and expertise available to individual schools

Providing a platform for the sharing of excellent practice

Challenging and developing staff to turn their potential into performance

1.1 Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

Suitable education is arranged for pupils on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs which have been certified by a relevant Health professional

Pupils, staff and parents understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority

1.2 Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

Accessibility plan

Supporting pupils with medical conditions

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Equal Opportunities Policy

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#).

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. The responsibilities of the school

3.1 Pupils unable to attend school

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

Where a child is absent from school for medical reasons, the school will provide education tasks and resources for use at home when the child is well enough to engage in education, when requested by parents.

When an absence is known to be more than 15 days or exceeds 15 days, then home tuition should be offered to the child. This may be provided through the school's resources or via Education Other Than School (EOTAS) AS PART OF Swindon LA. A referral for home tuition can be made electronically. Medical evidence will be required and should be attached.

Where a child is admitted to hospital, the school will liaise with EOTAS to inform them of the curriculum areas the pupil should be covering during their absence. Where possible, school will plan the educational programme of the pupil with the service provider, taking into account (as appropriate) of the medical condition, treatment, effects of medication. Therapeutic programmes provided and the duration of absence from school.

Abbey Park School will aim to ensure maximum continuity of education for the pupil providing: Medium term planning, programmes of study/schemes of work, appropriate resources, information relating to pupil's ability, progress to date, assessment data and special educational needs.

Where possible, the school will host review meetings as the pupil remains on the school roll and is therefore the school's responsibility.

Where pupils have recurrent admissions or have a planned admission to hospital, the school will aim to provide a pack of work for the pupil to take into hospital with them.

Reintegration into school

The school will work with providers of education, doctors, educational psychologists, indeed all relevant professionals, the parents/carers and the pupil themselves to plan a gradual and sensitively orchestrated reintegration into school.

The school will ensure that the pupils and staff in the school who have maintained contact with the pupil who has been absent will play a significant role in helping the pupil settle back into school.

The school will accept part-time attendance where the pupils are medically unable to cope with a full day, until the pupil is able to attend for full school days. The school will make arrangements for pupils with mobility problems to return to school, taking account of health and safety issues, organising risk assessment and seeking advice on lifting and handling procedures where necessary.

The impact on staff will be considered and additional support may be required from the school budget or via review and referral to the SEN panel. Throughout the absence, the school will maintain contact with both parents/carers and the pupil. This will include

invitations to events and productions at the school as well as regular communication via letters, newsletters and e-mail.

Both the school and the education provider will support and advise pupils and their parents/carers, as appropriate, during the absence. The school should expect to receive regular reports and assessment of pupil progress from the service provider during the pupil's absence and a folder of work returned to the school. The Pastoral Team will ensure that all relevant staff are aware of a pupil's absence and their responsibility towards maintaining continuity of education for the child.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Swindon LA 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

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will oversee the organisation of all arrangements and will review them regularly with the Pastoral Team. This policy will be reviewed annually by the Designated Safeguarding Lead. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.