

Children With Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

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| Category: | Location Specific Policy |
| Authorised By: | Regional Director under delegated authority |
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This policy will be subject to ongoing review and may be amended prior to the scheduled date of the next review to reflect changes in legislation, statutory guidance, or best practice (where appropriate).

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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 is also based on guidance provided by the local authority. A link to the Local Authority guidance can be found [here](#)

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

3. Responsibilities of the school

The School will check attendance on a daily basis, and will seek to speak to the pupil's family to discover the reason why a young person cannot attend School; if this falls outside of the 'normal' illness or exceptional reasons, and is a legitimate reason for being absent from School, then;

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 Head of School will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements
- Arrangements may include sending work home, engaging the home school tuition service or engaging with hospital tuition.
- Advice may be sought for from an appropriate professional (such as a doctor) to understand if the young person is capable of engaging in learning.
- These arrangements will be made directly with the pupil's family, as to what will be the best course of action; for some pupils this may also include consulting with health and or social care to understand and support the situation.
- Reintegration back to school will be led by the young person's needs, this will often involve considering a part-time or rising timetable, again other professionals may be called upon to work in a multi-disciplinary format to support this.

3.2. If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Cumberland Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils. The initial

advice will taken from the EHCP coordinator as to the best referral mechanism at the time.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school and trust 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

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4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed and approved under the Board of Trustees' policy management arrangements and Scheme of Delegation.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions