

Ramsden Hall Academy

Children with health needs who cannot attend school

LAST REVIEW DATE	September 2025	REVIEW PERIOD	Yearly
NEXT REVIEW DATE	September 2026	APPROVED BY	Governing Body

Contents

1. Aims	3
2. Legislation and guidance	3
3. The 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 also based on guidance provided by our local authority. The link to this guidance is below.

[https://schools.essex.gov.uk/pupils/Attendance Compliance/Pages/EducationWelfareService.aspx](https://schools.essex.gov.uk/pupils/Attendance%20Compliance/Pages/EducationWelfareService.aspx)

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

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.

Under the circumstances that a child cannot attend school due to health needs the academy will:

- Work alongside parents/carers by obtaining any relevant information we require to support the child including any medical advice available.
- The Associate Assistant Head Teacher in charge of personal development, behaviour and wellbeing will co-ordinate the appropriate arrangements.
- The academy will identify the most appropriate member of staff as point of contact for both parents and pupil.
- The academy will put in place the most appropriate amount and type of provision for the pupil in consultation with parents and carers and based on the medical advice.
- Provision will include a combination of work sent home/provided to hospital schools, online resources/programmes, 1 to 1 tuition at home commissioned by Ramsden Hall Academy, Online tuition via TLC live and 1 to 1 provision within the community provided by our pathways tutors.
- A transition or reintegration back into school will in the majority of cases be gradual and discussed with both the parents/carers and the pupil and based on the medical advice available.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Essex County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

The academy will contact the local authority via the pupil's case worker at the earliest opportunity following confirmation that the pupil cannot attend school due to health needs. The academy will then maintain contact and regularly update the case worker of any changes the provision being provided or attended.

It will be decided that the arrangements are not suitable if:

- The provision provided fails to engage the pupil or he does not attend and no other provision is available

- The academy feels the provision provided is not enough or not appropriate and no other provision is available
- The parents/carers feel the provision provided is not enough or not appropriate and no other provision is available
- Appropriate provision based on need is not available
- The pupil fails to reintegrate back into school

The process for referring a child to the local authority can be found via the link: [https://schools.essex.gov.uk/pupils/Attendance Compliance/Pages/EducationWelfareService.aspx](https://schools.essex.gov.uk/pupils/Attendance%20Compliance/Pages/EducationWelfareService.aspx)

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 Adam Robbins, Associate Assistant Head Teacher. 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
- Attendance Policy
- SEN Policy.