

Thrunscoe Primary and Nursery Academy

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy



Approved by: Governing Body

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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 also based on the guidance provided by the government and our local authority:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

3. The responsibilities of the school

3.1 If the academy makes arrangements

Initially, the academy will attempt to make and monitor arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend the academy, and this will be arranged through the named member of staff: Mr S. Bate.

- The academy will give due consideration to which aspects of the curriculum are prioritised in consultation with the pupil, their family and relevant members of staff and professionals.
- For periods of absence that are expected to last for 15 or more school days, either in one absence or over the course of an academy year Mr S. Bate will notify the LA, who will take responsibility for the pupil with health needs and their education.
- Where absences are anticipated or known in advance, the academy will liaise with the LA to enable educational provision to be provided from the start of the pupil's absence.
- For hospital admissions, Mr S.Bate will liaise with the LA regarding the programme that should be followed while the pupil is in hospital.
- The LA will set up a personal education plan (PEP) for the pupil which will allow the academy, the LA and the provider of the pupil's education to work together.

- The academy will monitor pupil attendance and mark registers to ensure it is clear whether a pupil is, or should be, receiving education otherwise than at the academy.
- Where a pupil has a complex or long-term health issue, the academy will discuss the pupil's needs and how these may be best met with the LA, relevant medical professionals, parents and, where appropriate, the pupil.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

The LA must arrange suitable full-time education for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would not receive suitable education without such provision, after 15 days of consecutive or cumulative periods of absence.

The LA should:

- Provide such education, as soon as it is evident that a pupil will not be attending the academy for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative. They should liaise with the appropriate medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the pupil.
- Ensure the education pupils receive is of good quality, allows them to take appropriate qualifications, prevents them from falling behind their peers in the academy, and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into the academy as soon as possible.
- Address the needs of individual pupils in arranging provision.
- Have a named officer responsible for the education of children with additional health/medical needs and ensure parents know who this is.
- Have a written, publicly accessible policy statement on their arrangements to comply with their legal duty towards children with additional health/medical needs.
- Review the provision regularly to ensure that it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education.
- Give clear policies on the provision of education for children and young people under and over compulsory school age.
- The LA Home Tuition Service for children and young people with medical needs is a commissioned service provided by Wellspring Academy Trust at Sevenhills.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the academy will support by:

- Work constructively with the LA, providers, relevant professionals and parents to ensure the best outcomes for the pupil
- Share information with the LA 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
- Plan for consistent provision during and after the period of education outside the academy, allowing the pupil to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible

- To help ensure a pupil with additional health needs is able to attend the academy, following an extended period of absence, the following adaptations will be considered: a personalised or part-time timetable, drafted in consultation with the named staff member; access to additional support in the academy e.g. wellbeing mentors; online access to the curriculum from home; movement of lessons to more accessible rooms; places to rest at the academy and special exam arrangements to manage anxiety or fatigue
- Enable the pupil to stay in touch with academy life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school)

Reintegration

- When reintegration is anticipated, the academy will develop a tailored reintegration plan. The academy will achieve this through consultation with the LA, parents and relevant health care professionals; this is to plan for consistent provision during and after the period of education outside the academy.
- The academy will consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made to provide suitable access to the academy and the curriculum for the pupil.

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by Ms A Reynolds and Mrs K Herd. At every review, it will be approved by the Head teacher and the full governing board.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Policy and Plan
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Children Missing in Education Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Records Management Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy