



Ousedale School

Be Kind | Work Hard | Succeed Together

Children with health needs who cannot attend school

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Reviewed and approved by Personnel Committee | 2nd October 2023 |
| Reported to Full Governors | 4th December 2023 |
| Next due for review by Personnel Committee | October 2024 |

1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- Students, 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](#) and The Equality Act 2010

It is also based on the latest Government guidance: 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs' January 2013.

3. The responsibilities of the school

Where a student has long term medical needs, an Individual Health Care Plan (IHP) will be completed as outlined in the 'Supporting students at school with medical conditions policy'.

This outlines the pupil's resulting needs, support to be provided and is shared with all staff working with that student.

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.

- A member of the senior team will liaise with the teachers and family to ascertain the pupil's ability to access and complete work set
- If a pupil is unable to attend school due to a prior arranged hospital visit and is well enough to access learning, teachers will prepare work either online or text books suited to the pupil's ability.
- School will liaise with families or hospital school settings to elicit available resources e.g. internet and devices
- School will continue to provide work once it is known if the hospital school will not be supporting the pupil
- Regular, weekly at the minimum, contact will provide feedback relating to school work being provided and if it remains appropriate.
- Liaise with families and medical professionals to provide an appropriate phased return to school if deemed necessary.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Milton Keynes Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. The school will make this referral if a child has been away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative and the absence has been confirmed by a medical specialist.

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 the Senior Assistant Head teacher at Personnel committee

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Disability Access Development Plan
- Supporting students with medical conditions
- Equality Opportunities Policy - Pupils