

[illegible]

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

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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
- Shorefields School aims to ensure that all children who are unable to attend school due to medical needs, and who would not receive suitable education without such provision, continue to have access to as much education as their medical condition allows, to enable them to reach their full potential. Due to the nature of their health needs, some children may be admitted to hospital or placed in alternative forms of education provision. We recognise that, whenever possible, pupils should receive their education within their school and the aim of the provision will be to reintegrate pupils back into school as soon as they are well enough. We understand that we have a continuing role in a pupil's education whilst they are not in school and will work with the LA, healthcare partners and families to ensure that all children with medical needs receive the right level of support to enable them to maintain links with their education.

2. Legislation and guidance

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

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Data Protection Act 2018
- DfE (2013) 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs'
- DfE (2015) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'.

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

3. 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.

The Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher or Strand Lead will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements. Initially a meeting may be made with parents / carers to discuss arrangements for working from home. The agreed plan will be shared with all relevant parties. The plan will then be carried out to deliver education to the child.

Arrangements could include adapting work to send home, a Teaching Assistant may attend the home or live lessons may be arranged, however we understand that many pupils who are not currently attending school may have lots going on in their personal lives and the additional pressures of school lessons for the family or themselves, may be one thing too much, so lessons will be delivered on a bespoke basis and at as frequently as they can manage.

Before reintegration happens, a planning meeting will be held to ensure the child's needs can be met in school and all equipment, adaptations or training has been carried out for a safe return. At this point the speed of a return to school will be discussed to ensure the child can cope and the reintegration is successful.

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 pupils.

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 every two years by the Deputy Head Teachers 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
- Safeguarding Policy
- Attendance Policy