



**Policy for supporting  
children with health care  
needs who cannot attend  
school**

**2023 - 2024**

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## 1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for children on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- Children, staff and parents/carers 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](#).

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

## 3. Responsibilities of the school

As DfE guidance states:

*LAs are responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for permanently excluded pupils, and for other children who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. This means that where a child cannot attend school because of health problems, and would not otherwise receive a suitable full-time education, the LA is responsible for arranging provision and must have regard to this guidance.*

*There will be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the LA – for example, where the child can still attend school with some support; where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child; or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in a hospital by an on-site hospital school. We would not expect the LA to become involved in such arrangements unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable or, while otherwise suitable, was not full-time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health. This might be the case where, for example, the child can attend school but only intermittently.*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/941900/health\\_needs\\_guidance\\_accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/941900/health_needs_guidance_accessible.pdf)

### 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.

Senior leaders will be responsible for making and monitoring arrangements for a child's learning if they cannot attend school. We will provide remote learning or send a pack of work depending on what is most appropriate for that child.

SLT and the child's class teacher will liaise closely with parents/carers and any other professionals (for example, medical practitioners) on how best to support the child with their learning and how to reintegrate the child back into school when they are ready.

### **3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements**

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Shropshire Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

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 child
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the child 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 child to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible
  - Enable the child 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 Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full Trustee Board.

## **5. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting children with medical conditions