



Castle Primary School
(Member of The Learning Alliance)

**CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT
ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY**

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| Document Version | 1 |
| Date of Last Review | 13/06/2023 |
| Next Review Date | 13/06/2024 |
| Approving Body | LGB |
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| Document Author | J MASON |

Revisions Log

| Date | Pages/Whole Document | Description of Change | Origin of Change (e.g. Routine Update, request for Review) |
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Contents

1. Aims
2. Legislation and Guidance
3. School Responsibilities
4. Monitoring Arrangements
5. Links to other policies

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 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 is also based on guidance provided by Staffordshire local authorities within which our school sits.

Staffordshire policy statement and guidance can be found using the link below:

<https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/advice.page?id=cwhbuUNF4cc>

3. School Responsibilities

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. Delivery may include sending work home, providing remote lessons, 1-1 if staff/time available)

The Head Teacher and SENDCO will be accountable for the education and wellbeing of any children with health needs who cannot attend school.

Our schools will make bespoke arrangements best suited to the circumstances and in consult with the child, their family and their medical team. The aim, in all cases, is to reintegrate children back into school as soon as they are fit to do so.

Transition arrangements might include: home visits from key staff, part-time timetables, supported home lessons.

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

The suitability of arrangements made for a child with health needs who cannot attend school are agreed on a case by case basis. Decisions are made in consultation with the Local Authority, the child (if of a suitable age), the parents/carers/ guardians and the medical team.

All schools will consider a referral to the Local Authority when they are aware that the absence from school may last longer than 15 days.

Staffordshire's Pathway for compulsory school age pupils who are unable to attend school due to health/medical needs.

Pupil absent from school due to medical/health condition

1. School initially put in place a flexible and suitable arrangement for education with a plan to return to school.
2. School recognise they require additional financial support to meet the on-going educational needs of the pupil due to prolonged medical absence.
3. School initiate an [Education Help Assessment](#) and Care Plan. School may approach the Pupil Referral Unit for advice and guidance around supporting the pupil's education and also consider a referral for an Education Health and Care Needs Assessment.
4. School contact the Local Authority clearly stating what additional financial support is required. See information on high needs block.
5. Local Authority agrees a package of education provision to be jointly funded by school and high needs block.
6. School to manage provision and keep Local Authority updated on the case. Each case should be reviewed with a view to reintegrating the pupil as their medical condition improved.

Once the Local Authority are involved our 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 they can be reintegrated back into school successfully

When reintegration is anticipated, our school will 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. The Local Governing Body will review the policy and seek approval from the Trustees of 'The Learning Alliance'.

Key points to consider:

- Children at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education.
- Governing bodies must ensure that arrangements are in place in schools to support children at school with medical conditions.
- Governing bodies should ensure that school leaders consult health and social care professionals, children and parent/carers to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Plan
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions
- Remote Learning Policy