



Making a difference, as we grow together

# Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Alderman Pounder Infant and Nursery School



<b>Approved by:</b>	Governing body	Date: 10/10/2023
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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 is also based on guidance provided by our local authority: [Children absent from school due to illness | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

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

## 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 SENCO is responsible for making arrangements for delivering a high-quality educational package for the child, supported by the class teacher. Arrangements that could be made include: sending work home; providing videos of lessons; providing equipment required for the child to continue learning at home and coordinate with outside agencies, such as hospital schools, to ensure education can continue where possible.

All arrangements will be created with parents/carers and will be reviewed weekly. When the child is healthy and is medically fit to return to school, a transition plan will be created with parents/carers and the child to reintegrate the child back into school.

### 3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Nottinghamshire County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

- Requests for support cannot be made by parents. Instead, they come from the pupil's school or hospital staff and should be supported by a consultant and/or a community paediatrician in the case of physical/medical reasons.
- Where anxiety is the main cause of school non-attendance the request for support should be supported by the school's educational psychologist and possibly Child and Adolescent Mental health Service (CAMHS).
- A team of qualified and experienced teachers and teaching assistant work closely with schools to support a suitable education programme for pupils. Teaching sessions may take place in the home, but will normally take place in some other suitable venue.

- Provision is reviewed regularly and staff liaise with school, health professionals and other supporting agencies to plan and support the pupil's return to school.

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 by the SENCO and approved by the governing board every year.

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

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions