Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Meadowfield

To inspire and motivate all pupils and staff who learn and work together to aspire to endless possibilities.

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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 confirmed in writing and recommended by a health professional
- 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 There is further guidance from Kent County Council and how to access support from Kent Health Needs Education Service (KHNES).

https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-attendance/children-with-long-term-illness

3. Responsibilities of the school

If any of our pupils are unable to come into school because they need to stay in hospital for a prolonged period of time or they have a long-term medical condition, we will liaise with the family how best to support them to continue their child's education. The type of support will depend on the child's specific illness or medical needs.

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.

Teams will be the main vehicle to deliver remote or blended learning. The class teacher is responsible to organise all learning tasks and will regularly liaise with the parents and the child(ren) about the arrangements.

The frequency of these consultations is determined by the needs of each individual case, but a minimum of a weekly check-in is advised.

The Assistant Principal will monitor the provision and how to assess pupil progress. Before children come back to school, the Assistant Principal and/or class teacher will consult with the parents/carers about reintegration to school.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Kent County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils. The child(ren) will be referred to Kent Health Needs Education Service. Early Help may also be consulted to support a child and the family's needs. 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

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 telephone calls, TEAMS, emails, invitations to school events and work packs sent home)
- 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 Deputy Principal. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies

- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

Statutory Policy Approved by Governing Body	
Policy Adopted	September 2025
Policy Approved	Awaiting Approval
Next Review	Academic year 2026/27