



Children with health needs who cannot attend school

Lionel Walden Primary School

Updated:
October 2023

Review Date:
October 2026

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

Legislation and guidance

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

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority, [Cambridgeshire County Council](#).

The responsibilities of the school

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 Headteacher will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements
- Arrangements will include sending work home linked to the class timetable and curriculum, which will be marked by the class teacher and feedback will be provided weekly via phone call
- The Headteacher will consult parents and children about these arrangements in a meeting with the class teacher
- The Headteacher will review the child's wellbeing and progress through a weekly phone call with the class teacher
- A reintegration plan will be used to support children back into school. The specific details of this, including the time at school and length of the phased return, will depend on the individual child's circumstances in collaboration with parents

If the local authority makes arrangements

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

The local authority must ensure suitable education is provided when a child is absent for more than 15 days. This can either be consecutive days or a total of days over a period of time.

The Department for Education has [published statutory guidance](#) for local authorities and schools. This outlines their roles to ensure children receive a good education.

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

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Safeguarding and Child Protection policy