

Policy & Procedure



Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

2022-2023

This policy is reviewed every year and was agreed by the Governing Body of West Park School in ... and will be reviewed again in ...

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors

Date: _____

Statutory Policy

Aims and Vision

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, parents and 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](#)

It is also based on Government Statutory Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

3. The responsibilities of the school

Initially, the school will attempt to make necessary arrangements and all reasonable adjustments to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. This includes earlier intervention and identification of barriers, meetings, home visits, use of virtual / online provision.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

In the first instance, the Head of Year and subject teachers will be responsible for providing this support with guidance from the SENDCO and Attendance Officer. Class work will be sent on a weekly basis to the pupil's home (if they are at home) or delivered virtually and online predominantly via FireFly, but supported by additional interventions such as IDL and Literacy Planet software.

In the case of a pupil accessing the hospital school provision, the SENDCO and Attendance Officer will liaise with the hospital teacher to support the learning wherever possible.

Weekly check-ins with the family will be offered to ensure that the work is pitched at the correct level and that it is supporting the well-being of the pupil.

When the child is due to return to school, there will be an agreed, personal transition package to ensure a steady and successful re-integration back to school. This will be agreed by SENDCO, Attendance Officer, parents and carers, school, medical staff and the pupil. It will be monitored weekly thereafter.

It may be, under complex circumstances, we may use modified timetables to support pupils' reintegration back into fulltime education.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, and school's attempts to find alternative provision via Castle, Kingsmead, OOST etc. have not proved appropriate, Derby City Council, will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

Within Derby City this provision is made through referral to the Hospital and Medical team (known as the ECHO team) at Kingsmead School as agreed through the SLA. SENDCO will support through making necessary referrals and ensuring funding is applied for if necessary.

Education would be arranged by the LA for the following pupils:

- Those admitted to the Royal Derby hospital and resident on a ward but well enough to be taught; returning for regular treatment as out-patients or have been specifically referred by a hospital-based consultant.
- Provision for those children and young people of compulsory school age referred through Secondary Placement Panel who, because of illness, would otherwise not receive suitable education

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies parents and carers 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 pupil 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 phone calls, emails, invitations to school events, continued use of the school library, MS Teams check-ins or 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 SENDCO. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Medical Needs Policy
- Special Education Needs and Disability Policy

Equality Statement

At West Park School, we actively seek to encourage equity and equality through everything we do. As such, we seek to advance the equality of opportunity between people who share any of the following characteristics:

- sex;
- ethnicity;
- disability;
- religion or belief;
- sexual orientation;
- gender reassignment;
- age;
- civil partnerships;
- pregnancy or maternity.

The use of stereotypes under any of the above headings will not be accepted and will always be challenged.

Inclusion

West Park is a fully inclusive school. We are passionately committed to making all pupils feel included in the breadth of our curriculum, our environment and all activities. We endeavour to make our teaching environments and classrooms increasingly inclusive. We recognise the entitlement of all pupils to a balanced, broadly-based curriculum. We have systems in place for early identification of barriers to their learning and participation so that they can engage in school activities with all other pupils. We acknowledge the need for high expectations and suitable targets for all pupils.