

Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Long Wittenham C.E. Primary School

This policy supports the school vision

Caring For Others And Courageously Striving For Excellence



Last reviewed on: 30th August 2021

Next review due by: September 2022

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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 also based on guidance provided by our local authority <http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/outreach-teaching-sector>

3. The responsibilities of the school

For pupils who are not able to access mainstream education due to medical needs / mental health. The Outreach Teaching Sector (OTS) of [Oxfordshire Hospital School](#) contributes to the government's strategy to promote equal access to education for all children and young people. It responds to schools' requests to support the education of pupils who have an illness/diagnosis which indicates prolonged or recurring periods of absence from school. Evidence from an appropriate medical professional is required to support requests for OTS support. Schools should take necessary action to ensure that pupils are not at home without access to education for more than 15 working days.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to provide suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school and will work in partnership with parents/ carers.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

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 annually by Teaching Learning and Pastoral Care Committee. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board. The DfE advises that this policy is reviewed annually, in its [list of statutory policies](#).

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions