



Children Unable to Attend School Due To Health Needs

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| Responsibility | Zoe Budding |
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This policy should be read in conjunction with Perschore High School Medication Policy, Attendance Policy, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy and Safeguarding Children Policy.

Perschore High School aims to support the LA and ensure that all children who are unable to attend school due to medical needs, and who would not receive suitable education without such provision, continue to have access to as much education as their medical condition allows, to enable them to reach their full potential. Due to the nature of their health needs, some children may be admitted to hospital or placed in alternative forms of education provision. We recognise that, whenever possible, students should receive their education within their school and the aim of the provision will be to reintegrate students back into school as soon as they are well enough. We understand that we have a continuing role in a student’s education whilst they are not attending the school and will work with the LA, healthcare partners and families to ensure that all children with medical needs receive the right level of support to enable them to maintain links with their education.

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1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- Students, staff and parents/carers understand what our school is responsible for when education is being provided by the local authority

2. Legislation and guidance

- This policy is based on the following legislation:
 - [The Education Act 1996](#)
 - [The Education \(Student Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#)
- It is also based on the following statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE):
 - [Alternative provision](#)
 - [Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)

3. Responsibilities of the school

The LA must arrange suitable full-time education for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would not receive suitable education without such provision. Pershore High School has a duty to support the LA in doing so.

3.1 If our school makes the arrangements

Initially, our school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver the same high standard of education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. This will be done with the support of the SENCO and the student's House Office and in conjunction with parents.

3.2 If the local authority makes the arrangements

If our school cannot make suitable arrangements, or if it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days (consecutive or over the course of the year) or more because of their health needs, Worcestershire County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

When the local authority arranges alternative education, the provision should begin as soon as possible.

Where full-time education is not in the child's best interest for reasons relating to their physical or mental health, the local authority must arrange part-time education on whatever basis it considers to be in the child's best interests. It is usual that alternative arrangements will be made through the CCAS (Children Who Cannot Attend School) panel or directly with the Medical Education Team, the local authority's service to discharge its responsibility for children too ill to attend school.

- In cases where the local authority makes the arrangements, our school will:
 - Provide to the local authority, at agreed intervals, the full name and address of any students of compulsory school age who are not attending school regularly due to their health needs
 - Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers to ensure the best outcomes for the child
 - Collaborate with the local authority to ensure continuity of provision and consistency of curriculum, including making information available about the curriculum

- Along with the local authority, regularly review the provision offered to ensure it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- When a child has complex or long-term health issues, work with the local authority, parents/carers and the relevant health services to decide how best to meet the child's needs (e.g. through individual support, arranging alternative provision or by them remaining at school, being supported at home and back into school after each absence)
- Where possible, allow the child to take examinations at the same time as their peers, and work with the local authority to support this
- Help make sure 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 child to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible, including through digital resources
 - Enable the child to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, epraise), and, where appropriate, through educational visits
 - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school, which includes extra support to fill any gaps arising from the absence
 - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Assistant Headteacher (pastoral). 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
- Supporting students with medical conditions