



**Boroughbridge**  
High School

## **Policy: Students with health needs who cannot attend school**

Policy Reviewed	November 2025
Policy Ratified by Governors	November 2025
Next Policy review due	November 2026
Staff Lead	SENDCo & Associate Assistant Head (Student Experience & Welfare)

### **Significant Revisions since last review:**

No revisions since last review

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## Policy scope

This policy is for staff, students, parents and carers, governors and partner agencies who work with the school. It provides principles, guidelines and procedures as to how Boroughbridge High School provides suitable education for students with health needs who cannot attend school.

## 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 the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority (LA)

## Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the following legislation

- [The Education Act 1996](#)
  - [The Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#)
- It is also based on the following statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE):
- [Alternative provision](#)
  - [Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school](#)

This policy also follows guidance provided by our local authority:

North Yorkshire Inclusion Service <https://nyes.info/Page/5523>

[NYSENDHubs@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:NYSENDHubs@northyorks.gov.uk) Phone: 01609 534010

## 4. Responsibilities of the school

### 4.1 If the school makes the arrangements

Initially, Boroughbridge High School will attempt to make arrangements to deliver the same high standard of education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

This is conducted by:

- SENDCO, SLT and Pastoral Team (including attendance officer) are responsible for making and monitoring educational arrangements
- Work will be made accessible via school's online platform (google classroom), work will be sent home and applications for medical tuition where threshold is reached
- Parents and carers will be involved in each stage of provision and plan including home visits, consenting to referrals for provision and access to the online school platform. Plans will be reviewed on a bi-weekly basis and will be recorded and shared securely in school and with the Local authority
- School will plan and adapt timetables to meet individual requirements for a phased return. School will also try and support communication methods with peers via social time visits into school/online meets.

A reintegration plan may include:

- A personalised timetable that reflects the student's health capabilities;
- Access to additional support in school both in class and/or intervention support sessions;
- Access to IT curriculum to access from home;

- Movement of lessons to more accessible classrooms;
- A place to rest at school;
- Special exam arrangements to manage anxiety or fatigue.
- All requests for medical education for students, of statutory school age, must be submitted to the Inclusion Service using the medical education request form complete with information provided by the medical practitioner.

## **4.2 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, North Yorkshire Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

When the local authority arranges alternative education, the education should begin as soon as possible, and at the latest by the 6<sup>th</sup> day of the child's absence from school.

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.

All students referred for support from the Service must meet the following criteria:

- A resident in North Yorkshire, or is receiving education in a North Yorkshire educational establishment.
- Aged 5-18 years or up to 25 years if they have an EHC Plan.
- A diagnosis from a recognised health specialist which does not include a GP. It is this diagnosed health condition which is the reason they are unable to attend school.
- Currently receiving specialist help and support from a recognised health professional.
- Evidence from the health specialist, delivering the help and support which describes what the child or young person can do from an educational perspective.
- The student must have been absent from school for 15 days or more (one off or cumulatively) due to their medical condition.

The request has been discussed with parents/carers and signed consent has been obtained from those with parental responsibility or from a young person themselves, where they are considered to be competent and are over 16 years of age.

### **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 pupils 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
- Communicate/Meet with the parent/carer and educational provision (MES) to maintain safeguarding responsibilities
- 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, digital learning platforms, social media platforms, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school), 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

## **5. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Associate Assistant Head – Student experience and Welfare. At every review, it will be approved by the Federation Governing Board.

## **6. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Plan
- Supporting students with medical conditions
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Manual and Policy
- Positive Mental Health
- Self-Harm and Suicide Ideation Policy
- Equalities
- Attendance Policy
- First Aid and Medicines Procedures
- Pupil Remote Learning Policy
- SEND Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions