

EDWARD PEAKE C of E (VC) SCHOOL



Children with Health needs who cannot attend School Policy 2024-25

Policy Statement

This policy aims to ensure that Edward Peake School strives to provide suitable education for pupils on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs.

This policy will reflect the requirements of the Education Act 1996 along with additional guidance provided by the Local Authority. The LA has a duty, set out in Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 and the DfE Statutory Guidance to provide education for children who cannot attend school full time due to their medical or health needs.

Edward Peake School is providing support for our pupils with medical needs under our statutory duties as defined in our policy 'Supporting pupils with medical conditions in school'. It is only when the pupil's medical condition or health needs become too complex to manage in school that this policy will then apply.

The Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for children who because of illness or other reasons would not receive suitable education without such provision. This means where a child cannot attend school because of health problems, (eg: has a long term stay in hospital) and would not otherwise receive a suitable full-time education, the LA is responsible for arranging appropriate provision.

We would not expect the LA to become involved unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable, or while otherwise suitable education was not full time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health.

What arrangements will the School make?

Once the school has been made aware of a child's health needs, affecting their ability to attend school on a regular basis, an initial meeting will be organised. Present at the meeting will be, the parents, the school attendance officer and the school family support. Initial discussions regarding the health conditions and child's needs will then be reported. The school can then assess what processes will be best to support the child to ensure full-time education can be reasonably achieved.

The following guidelines must be put in place to ensure a safe and smooth integration for learning at home if in the first instance the child's health is such that physically being in school full-time, is not possible.

- Set-up for online learning with google classroom/the schools current remote learning facilities.
- Correct parental contacts and home address.
- Form tutor advised.
- All class teachers provided with contact information.
- Timetable adjustments where necessary.
- Access to the curriculum and materials.
- Maintain contact with classmates to ensure the child continues to feel part of the school community.
- Delivery of workbooks and school materials (including a technology device if necessary) to the home address, whenever necessary.

Weekly monitoring and communication will be put in place and regular contact made with the family through telephone calls, google meetings and face to face, where possible.

A timeline will be set, where possible, determined by the type of health condition or on-going medical need and any treatment. The family will have one main point of contact within school for continuity.

Main contact: Mrs T Jeffs

Second contact: Mr R Scoot

Third contact: Child's Form Teacher

On-going discussions must be in place for ensuring the possibility of reintegration as soon as is practically possible, determined by the child's needs.

When the Local Authority are responsible for arrangements

As soon as it is clear that a child will be absent for more than 15 days, this can either be consecutive days or a total of days over a period of time, the local authority must make sure that suitable education is provided.

The LA must arrange suitable full-time education (or as much education as the child's health will allow) for children of compulsory school age, who because of their illness cannot receive suitable education in school.

- The school liaise with the Medical Needs Education Team (MNET).
- They will liaise with suitable medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the child.
- Ensure the education received is of good quality, allows them to take appropriate examinations, prevents them from falling behind their peers in school and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as is appropriately possible.
- Address the needs of the child on an individual basis, when arranging the education provision.
- Ensure that the children with health needs are receiving the equivalent provision that they would receive in school. This may be full or part-time, based on the best interests of the child but should aim to achieve good academic attainment in English, Maths and Science.
- There should be a named officer responsible for the education of children with additional health needs and parents should know who that person is.
- Review the provision offered regularly to ensure it continues to be appropriate for that child.
- Work together with the school, external agencies and families to ensure the best outcomes for the child.

The LA will ensure that teachers who provide education for children with additional health needs will receive suitable training and support and are kept aware of curriculum developments. They will also be given suitable information relating to the child's health condition and the possible effect the condition and/or medication may have on the child.

For further information on what the Local Authority provides should your child have health issues that prevent them attending full-time school, please read the DfE statutory guidance ['Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs December 2023'](#)

[Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)

This policy should be reviewed on an annual basis.

Signed M. Sladen

Chair of Governors

Date approved Sept 2024

Review date Sept 2025