



Shires MAT

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Review and Approved by MAT Safeguarding Lead and CEO on 10 December 2024

..... Chair of Trustees

This policy will be reviewed annually in the autumn term



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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

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. The responsibilities of the school

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

Key information on delivering this is:

- The SENDCo/Inclusion Lead/AHT's and pastoral managers will, in conjunction with the child's class teacher (s) be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements. This could be by sending work home or liaising with the hospital schools service
- Parents/ carers and children will be fully consulted on these arrangements via an initial meeting and then subsequent follow up conversations either over the phone, via email or face-to-face
- A staggered reintegration plan will be put into place when the child is able to return to school. This again will be in conjunction with parent/ carers as in the previous bullet point

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Warwickshire or Worcestershire LA will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

- o In the event that in-school provision is deemed not suitable, the Headteacher/Inclusion Lead will initiate contact with the Local Authority should the need arise. This will be in



collaboration with parents/carers. The first point of contact will be the school's designated EHC Plan Co-ordinator, within the Statutory Assessment and Review Services. A representative from school will attend all meetings with the Local Authority in relation to the provision. This may be the SENDCo, Inclusion Lead, Pastoral manager, Class Teacher, senior leader or Headteacher.

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. At every review, it will be approved by the Trust Board.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- SEND policy
- Attendance Policy
- Safeguarding and Child protection policy