

# Children with health needs who cannot attend school

## Luddenham School



EVERY CHILD CAN ACHIEVE

<b>Written by:</b>	Claire Vincett (based on model policy by The Key)	<b>Date:</b> Autumn 2024 (no longer statutory)
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<b>CHANGES</b>	No changes to previous policy Note no longer statutory	

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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/carers understand what our school is responsible for when education is being provided by the local authority (LA)

### 2. 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](#)
- › [Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)

This policy also follows guidance provided by our local authority. [Policy on supporting children who are unable to attend school because of medical/health needs | Let's talk Kent](#)

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

### 3. Responsibilities of the school

#### 3.1 If our school makes the arrangements

For children who aim to miss less than 15 days of school within the academic year:

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.

Our SENCO along with the Headteacher are responsible for making and monitoring the arrangements.

These arrangements could include:

- Sending learning home
- Providing resources to help with this learning
- Regular check in calls

These arrangement will be made in consultation with the parents/carers through a face to face meeting or online if not possible.

A meeting will be held to review the arrangement which will be agreed once the arrangements have been made and discuss about how reintegration back into school could look.

### 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, Kent County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. A referral will be made by the school using the [Digital Front Door](#).

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.

It is important to recognise that in nearly all circumstances pupils with health/ medical conditions will continue to receive a suitable education without intervention by the local authority, as the school will continue to meet its responsibilities to provide education for its pupils as set out in the Department for Education (DfE)

'Supporting pupils at School with Medical Conditions' guidance 2015 alongside other relevant DfE guidance

This will be the case:

- where the child can attend school with support
- where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school
- or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in an on-site hospital school.

It is recognised that in some circumstances, a pupil's health/medical condition becomes too complex and may require additional advice and/or support from the local authority, or the risks are too great to be managed by the school.

In relation to its duty under Section 19 of the Education Act 1996, Kent County Council has commissioned The Rosewood School to provide educational provision in circumstances where the pupil's educational needs cannot be met at their school due to health/medical reasons.

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
- › 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

#### **4. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by Claire Vincett, Headteacher. 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 pupils with medical conditions