



Policy for children with health needs who cannot attend school

ISSUED:	September 2023
REVIEW DATE:	Autumn 2024

"The Academy believes that inclusive practice is central to developing quality teaching and learning. As such, we endeavour to provide a supportive framework that responds to pupils' needs and overcomes potential barriers for individuals and groups of pupils and to ensure that pupils of all abilities and needs are fully included."

Principles

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 and the processes for the provision of education for students that are unable to attend school
- To clarify when/if external organisations (Local Authority/ Hospital schools etc) are responsible for the provision of education.

Legislation and Guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996

Responsibilities of the School

Oldbury Academy aims to ensure that pupils who are unable to attend school due to medical needs continue to have access to ongoing appropriate education. This may in some cases require the support of the LA. Wherever possible pupils should receive their education within Oldbury Academy and the aim will be to reintegrate the pupil back into school as soon as they are well enough.

Parents should notify the school of the reason for any of their child's absences without delay, in line with the Attendance Policy.

Whilst children are not attending the school due to medical needs we will work with the LA, Health Service, families, and any other partners to ensure they receive the right level of support to enable them to maintain links with their education.

School Arrangements

The school will endeavour to plan to deliver suitable education for pupils with health needs who cannot attend. We will work collaboratively with parents and other professionals in order to do this.

- The relevant Year Team will initially organise work to be available for the student where an absence is not anticipated to last for more than 15 school days. Arrangements to provide education could include work, weblinks, activities and resources sent home; streamed contact with teachers and support staff.
- As far as possible, when out of school the pupil will be able to access the curriculum and materials that they would have used in school.
- Pupils' progress will be actively monitored by their teachers.
- Pupils who have been out of school for a month or more will be supported back into school via a personal risk assessment and re-integration plan. For example, consideration will be given to (but not limited to) any physical risks and adaptations, increased fatigue, and heightened anxiety. (A new individual health care plan may be required)

Local Authority Arrangements

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 pupil 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
 - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school
 - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

Monitoring Arrangements

A termly review of the arrangements made for pupils who cannot attend school, due to their medical needs, will be presented by the Pastoral Lead to the Local Governing Body.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Pastoral Lead. After every review, it will be presented to the Local Governing Body for approval.

Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policy areas:

- School accessibility plans
- School policies on supporting pupils with medical conditions