



The Federation of Sacred Heart & St Mary's RC Primary School, Battersea

CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY

Approved By	Governors
Reviewed On	July 2024
Review Due	July 2025
Review Cycle	Annually

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)

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

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority. Hospital and Home Tuition Service (Medical Pupil Referral Unit) | Wandsworth Family Information Service

Responsibilities of the School

The school will arrange suitable full-time education (or as much education as the child's health condition allows) for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would otherwise not receive suitable education.

In Wandsworth, educational provision for children with additional health needs will be made through Hospital and Home Tuition Service which is a Hospital School within the LA, once a referral had been accepted.

If the School Makes Arrangements

Schools also have statutory duties in respect of children with additional health needs under the DfE statutory guidance, Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions (December 2015).

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

The LA and schools should work together in partnership with parents / primary carers, social services, health professionals and other agencies as appropriate, to plan and provide suitable alternative provision for children with additional health needs.

The LA will support where it is apparent that a child's health needs is preventing them from attending school for 15 or more school days, either in once absence or over the course of a school year, and where suitable education is not otherwise being arranged.

Intervention may include supporting the child's school to comply with its duties in relation to managing the child's medical condition and / or arranging provision for a temporary period. - Whilst the LA may be responsible for ensuring that alternative education arrangements are made, children with additional health needs must remain on the roll of their school throughout their absence and the school retain their duty to support such pupils.

- **Who in your school will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements?**
SLT in conjunction with class teacher.
- **What sort of arrangements could be made?**
Sending work home, hospital schools, option to attend lessons virtually.
- **How you will consult parents and pupils about these arrangements?**
Parent conversations, Team around the child (TAC) meetings with relevant professional and parent and all arrangements agreed in writing.
- **How you will reintegrate pupils back into school?**
An individualised plan written, dependent on each child's individual health needs (being aware of change in health needs) – in consultation with relevant health care professionals.

If the Local Authority Makes Arrangements

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, Wandsworth Borough Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

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.

Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by SLT. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

Links to other policies

This Policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Plan Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

All school policies can be found at https://www.stmarysschoolbattersea.co.uk/school_policies/ for St Mary's School and at <https://www.sacredheartschoolbattersea.co.uk/school-policies/> for Sacred Heart School.