

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

The Warriner Multi Academy Trust



This policy was approved by The Board of Trustees of the Warriner Multi Academy Trust in their meeting on 9th July 2020, on behalf of and for implementation in all its schools.

Review Due; June 2022

Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Legislation and guidance	2
3. The responsibilities of the school	2
4. Monitoring arrangements	3
5. Links to other policies	3

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 is also based on guidance provided by the Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire local authorities within which our schools sit.

Northamptonshire policy statement and guidance:

<https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/SEND/local-offer/Downloads/03.19-northants-la-policy-for-pupils-with-medical-needs.pdf>

Oxfordshire policy statement and guidance

<http://ohs.oxon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/OCC-Medical-Needs-Policy-Jan-2020.pdf>

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.

In each WMAT school there is a member of the Senior Leadership Team who is accountable for the education and wellbeing of any children with health needs who cannot attend school. In our smaller primary schools this would usually be the Head Teacher or SENCo

Our schools will make bespoke arrangements best suited to the circumstances of the child, these might include: Sending work home, sending staff home to provide 1:1 education, making use of hospital schools, providing virtual lessons, live streaming of lessons.

All arrangements for the provision of education will be made in consultation with the child (if of a suitable age) the parents/carers/guardians and the medical team.

The aim, in all cases, is to reintegrate children back into school as soon as they are fit to do so. This will be done in consultation with the child (if of a suitable age) the parents/carers/guardians and the medical team. Transition arrangements might include: home visits from key staff, part time timetables, supported home lessons.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, the Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

The suitability of arrangements made for a child with health needs who cannot attend school are agreed on a case by case basis. Decisions are made in consultation with the Local Authority, the child (if of a suitable age), the parents/carers/ guardians and the medical team.

All schools will consider a referral to the Local Authority when they are aware that the absence from school may last longer than 15 days.

All schools will follow the referral procedures set down by their Local Authority and documented in their policy statement. To which a link is provided in section 2 of this policy.

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 every 2 years. At every review, it will be approved by the Resources committee of the Trust Board.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions