



Leatherhead Trinity School and Nursery

Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Status: Statutory

Responsible Manager: Headteacher

Review Period: Annual

Responsible Governor: Chair of Governors

Valid from: March 2024

Next Review Date: March 2025

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.

3. The responsibilities of the school

LAs are responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for children who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. This means that where a child cannot attend school because of health problems, and would not otherwise receive a suitable full-time education, the LA is responsible for arranging provision and must have regard to this guidance.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

There will be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the LA – for example, where the child can still attend school with some support; where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child; or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in a hospital by an on-site hospital school. The LA is not expected to become involved in such arrangements unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable or, while otherwise suitable, was not full-time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health. This might be the case where, for example, the child can attend school but only intermittently.

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

- DSL and DHT (Attendance) are responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements, working alongside the class teacher and Phase Leader of the pupil
- Work can be arranged by sending work home, remote learning platforms and links via the school website/direct emails

- Parents and children will be consulted about these arrangements in various forms; verbally, over the telephone or in writing.

On return to school, pupils will be reintegrated on a need by need basis in order to meet the needs of the child. This could be in a reduced timetable, gradually increasing over a set period to meet full time requirements or a mixture of home and school learning combined.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Surrey County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

- LA would decide if arrangements are 'suitable'
- LA would decide how many days a child would need to be absent from school
- The school would follow the process for referring a child to the local authority

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 by the 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