



Policy for Children with Health Needs who Cannot Attend School

Approved by Governing Body March 2024, March 2026

Signed: Victoria Davis

Chair of Governing Body

Next review due: March 2027

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.

3. The responsibilities of the school

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

- › The class teacher of the individual child will be asked to make contact with the parent and provide appropriate learning.
- › This may be on paper or technological means e.g. video
- › The child will be supported to return to school as soon as possible with the appropriate risk assessments in place. These will be drawn up in conjunction with the child's parents using any medical reports as a basis

Responsibilities of Birmingham local authority

If a parent informs us that their child is unfit to attend school on a full-time basis, medical advice would be sought in order to make an informed decision about how much time a child would benefit from spending in school.

If the school is unable to make suitable arrangements, Birmingham City Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

Birmingham City Council has a hospital school designated for children who are unable to attend an educational setting for medical reasons. This placement would be decided using evidence from a medical professional.

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 Tapestry, 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 member of the senior leadership team. 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 needs in school
- › Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy
- › Birmingham City Council Section 19 policy