

Eaton Bank Academy

Children with health needs who cannot attend
school policy



Approved by SID Committee April 2023

Next review due April 2024

This policy will be reviewed annually.

1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- Students, 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

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. The Learning and Progress Manager or the SENDCo will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements.

- Arrangements to continue education might include sending work home, liaising with hospital schools etc.
- When the student is ready to return to school, we will liaise with parents and health professionals and take advice about the best way to reintegrate the student to school. This might include a phased return or part-time timetable if it is in the student's best interest (with consideration of medical advice).

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Cheshire East will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children ([Cheshire East Policy](#)).

Procedure for referral:

The school will be responsible for referring students to the Medical Needs Team, by completing form MN1A, once:

- A student has been absent for 15 days with illness or the school is aware that the student will be absent e.g. after a planned medical procedure;
- A student's attendance is less than 50% **and** they have an identified medical need; or
- They have been in hospital and are not well enough to return to school immediately.

This application must be supported by medical confirmation from one of the following health professionals:

- Consultant Paediatrician or Adolescent Psychiatrist;
- Consultant Child Psychiatrist;
- Hospital Consultant

On receipt of the completed forms the Cheshire East allocation panel will consider the request at its next meeting. The panel will inform the school of its decision and if accepted will allocate a lead teacher who will be the link between the school and the Medical Needs Team.

Initial meeting (as detailed in the Cheshire East Policy)

Once support has been agreed **the school** should chair and document a planning meeting prior to the commencement of medical needs tuition to ensure effective joint working and appropriate education provision for the student. Where appropriate the school must consider initiating a EHA (Early Help Assessment), which will ensure that the student and their family are able to access such early help support that may be relevant given their medical needs.

The Initial meeting should involve the student, parent/carer, appropriate school staff, the lead teacher from the Medical Needs Team and representatives of all the other agencies involved e.g. CAMHS, Family Support and School Health.

The meeting should decide:

- an agreed **education support plan** including how other agencies will contribute to an integrated support plan for the student;
- the approximate duration of the period of tuition (based on current medical information received);
- the subjects to be taught;
- a named link with school and named subject links and contact details;
- resources to be provided by the school;
- the venue for tuition – at home; combination of home & school; any alternative venue such as community centre (to include risk assessment)
- examination entries (if appropriate);
- the responsibilities of parents during education provision;
- the terms and conditions for continued support of the medical needs service;
- a reintegration plan;.
- the date of review meeting (not more than 6 weeks from the beginning of tuition).

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 student;
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required;
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the student 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 student to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible

- Enable the student to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through emails, invitations to school events or internet links to learning from the 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.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- First Aid Policy (including Supporting students with medical conditions)