Stoughton Infant and Nursery School

Northmead Junior School

Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Date Reviewed: 01/2026

Reviewed By: LGB

Next Review Due: 01/2027

Review Cycle: Annual

Learning Partners
academy trust

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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

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. This could include sending work home or working with Hospital Schools as appropriate.

Our alternative provision would aim to:

- Support good academic attainment on par with mainstream school in key subjects
- Identify and meet the specific personal, social, emotional, and academic needs of the pupil
- Improve the motivation, self-confidence, attendance, and engagement with education
- Have clearly defined objectives
- Ensure staff members are informed and responsive to the pupil's possible changing health status

We could facilitate this by:

- Creating a personalised learning plan to accommodate both academic and health needs.
- Regularly reviewing this plan and adapting it accordingly
- Providing access to resources required to support learning from home, including online resources
- Holding regular review meetings with parents/carers either in person or via telephone.
- Liaising with other professionals supporting the pupils and the family

- Providing a named point of contact in school for the family (this could be the SENDCo or class teacher)
- Creating opportunities for access to the wider curriculum, where possible

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, Surrey County Council, will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. The school must request this support and will provide evidence of the current provision made by the school. The local authority should arrange provision as soon as it is clear that an absence will last more than 15 days and it should do so at the latest by the sixth day of the absence, aiming to so by the first day of absence. Where an absence is planned, for example for a stay or recurrent stays in hospital, the local authority should make arrangements in advance to allow provision to begin from day one.

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
    - Ensure staff members receive timely and suitable training and support for the return of the pupil
    - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by Wendy Cook/Home School Link Worker. 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 policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions