

Priory Junior School

CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY

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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

At Priory Junior School, we aim to support the LA and ensure that all children, who are unable to attend school due to medical needs, and who would not receive suitable education without such provision, continue to have access to as much education as their medical condition allows, to enable them to reach their full potential.

Due to the nature of their health needs, some children may be admitted to hospital or placed in alternative forms of education provision. We recognise that, whenever possible, pupils should receive their education within their school and the aim of the provision will be to reintegrate pupils back into school as soon as they are well enough.

We understand that we have a continuing role in a pupil's education whilst they are not attending school and will work with the LA, healthcare partners and families to ensure that all children with medical needs receive the right level of support to enable them to maintain links with their education.

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#), the Equality Act 2010 and the DfE (2013) 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs'.

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.

Parents are advised to contact the school on the first day their child is unable to attend due to illness.

The school will provide support to pupils who are absent from school because of illness for a period of less than 15 school days by liaising with the pupil's parents to arrange schoolwork as soon as the pupil is able to cope with it or part-time education at school. This may include the setting of work on our learning platform, See-Saw.

For periods of absence that are expected to last for 15 or more school days, either in one absence or over the course of a school year, the named person with responsibility for pupils with health needs will notify the LA who will take the responsibility for the pupil and their education.

For hospital admissions, the named member of staff will liaise with the LA regarding the programme that should be followed while the pupil is in hospital.

A pupil unable to attend school because of their health needs will not be removed from the school roll without parental consent and certification from the Medical Officer, even if the LA has become responsible for the pupil's education.

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 Body.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy
- SEND policy
- Attendance policy
- Child protection and safeguarding policy