



Florence Melly Community Primary School Supporting Children with Medical Needs who Cannot Attend School Policy

IF YOU CAN DREAM IT, YOU CAN DO IT!



Policy Approval

Policy Title:	Supporting Children with Medical Needs who Cannot Attend School Policy					Date written:	October 2023			
Written by:	Christina O'Keefe (AHT/Inclusion Lead/SENCO)					New or revised policy:	Revised			
Stakeholders consulted in policy production: (✓ or x)	Governors	SLT	Teaching Staff	Support Staff	Admin Staff	Parent/Carers	Pupils	Local Community	External Agencies	
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
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Published on: (✓ or x)	School Website			School Prospectus/Induction Materials			Staff Handbook			
	✓			✓			✓			



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October 2023

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.

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#).

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority: [FSD Liverpool - Guidance for children with medical needs](#).

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

Responsibilities of the school

- The local authority and schools have a duty to provide education for your child when they are not able to attend due to identified health needs as outlined in the **Supporting Children with Medical Conditions Policy**.
- This should help your child to receive education while they are unwell for extended periods, including both physical illness and mental health.
- These duties are set out in the guidance: [Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs \(DFE; 2013\)](#).

If the school makes arrangements

- Initially, the school will make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. Once it is clear that a pupil will be away from school for more than 15 days, the Headteacher, Attendance Lead and SENCO will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements. Liverpool City Council will also be informed.
- A meeting will be held with parents/carers to discuss arrangements for working from home or hospital, and communication with parents/carers will remain a priority for the school throughout. A plan will be drawn up detailing agreed actions from the discussion; the plan will be signed by school and parents/carers. The plan will then be carried out to deliver education to the child.
- Work will be prepared by class teachers, and arrangements could include sending work home, online provision, attending a hospital school or alternative provider. Every effort will be made to deliver a provision similar to one they would receive if they were in school.
- The school will also endeavour to enable the pupil to remain in touch with school life as much possible, through remote contact, newsletter and involvement with events. This arrangement will be monitored throughout.
- The pupil will be slowly integrated back into school with guidance from medical professional and support from external agencies; where necessary, the pupil may come back into school on a reduced timetable until their health needs have been met. The school will perform, where appropriate, a risk assessment and consider what reasonable adjustments should be made in accordance with the Supporting Children with Medical Conditions Policy.

If the local authority makes arrangements

- If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Liverpool Local Authority, will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.
- 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

Monitoring arrangements

- This policy will be reviewed annually by Senior Leadership Team. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governing Body.

Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- SEND Policy
- Local Offer
- Accessibility Plan
- Equal Opportunities Policy

Acts taken into account when compiling this policy include:

- Children & Families Act 2014
- Equality Act 2010
- Mental Capacity Act 2005

Complaints

In the first instance, any concerns should be raised with the SENCO and/or the Headteacher. If unresolved, this can be escalated to the appropriate Governor.

All complaints must follow school's documented complaints procedure.