



**LIONHEART**  
EDUCATIONAL  
TRUST

**CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL NEEDS WHO CANNOT**  
**ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY**

**This policy applies to all schools within  
the Lionheart Educational Trust**

**Approved by the Trust**

**July 2023 – 2025**



## 1.0 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

## 2.0 Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of

- The Education Act 1996.
- Government guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/educationfor-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

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

## 3.0 The responsibilities of the school

### a. If the school makes arrangements

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

The school's SENCo team and/or pastoral team will make arrangements for the student's education.

This could include arrangements such as an adapted timetable, work being sent home, an adapted curriculum or a member of staff visiting the home.

Decisions will always be made in conjunction with parents' wishes and with the guidance of outside agencies where relevant. Meetings will be held on a regular basis to set up and review provision.

Students will be reintegrated back into school when appropriate, here additional arrangements may be put in place such as an adapted curriculum, a modified timetable, support from the pastoral team, support from the SEND team.

### b. If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, the local authority where the child resides, will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

Local authorities must:

- arrange suitable full-time education (or as much education as the child's health condition allows) for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would otherwise not receive suitable education
- provide such education as soon as it is clear that the child will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative.
- liaise with appropriate medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the child.

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 student 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 student returning to school
- consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

#### 4.0 Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- ~~Supporting pupils with medical conditions~~ **Medical Needs Policy**
- SEND policy