

Bullers Wood School

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy



Policy created by: Deputy Headteacher	Date of Adoption: July 2021	Date to be Reviewed: July 2023
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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 (LA)

2. Legislation and guidance

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

It also based on guidance provided by Bromley local authority. Please refer to [Education for children and young people with medical needs | Education for children and young people with medical needs | London Borough of Bromley](#)

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

3. The responsibilities of the school

The school will maintain good links and promote co-operation with the local authority when children cannot attend school because of ill health. Sharing of information between the school, health services and the relevant Local Authority is vital. The school will play a key role in ensuring that the provision offered to the child is as effective as possible and they can be reintegrated back into school successfully as appropriate. The school will have a named person who can be contacted by the Local Authority and parents with regard to children who cannot attend school due to health needs.

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 SENDCO will be responsible for setting up and monitoring these arrangements in liaison with Heads of Year and subject teachers
- Examples of initial arrangements could be: sending work home for the student to complete, adapting work to address the health needs of the student, liaising with teachers in a hospital school/setting.
- The SENDCO will consult with parents and students about these arrangements and feedback to Heads of Year and subject teachers as appropriate
- The SENDCO will work closely with the Heads of Year to create an effective reintegration plan to enable the student to return to school successfully on a phased or structured return as appropriate

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements to meet the student's needs then Bromley Borough Local Authority or the borough where the student resides will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these students.

Students of all ages and key stages are eligible for support from this service if they are a resident in Bromley and

- Have medical advice saying they are unfit to attend school, and one of the plans listed below:
- Have a consultant's letter requesting support from the Home and Hospital Service as part of a medical care plan that is also part of a:
 1. Pastoral Support Plan
 2. Personal Education Plan
 3. Reintegration Plan
- Are awaiting appropriate provision of education in mainstream or in special needs schools or alternative provision

Children at Princess Royal University Hospital can receive support from a qualified teacher either in the hospital classroom or at their bedside.

Children identified as eligible for support outside of school can be taught at home, in a library or educational centre.

Liaison with schools is maintained where a child is on roll so that continuity of learning is maintained.

Process of referral:

The law does not specify the point during a child's illness when it becomes the LA's responsibility to secure for the child suitable full-time education. Schools would usually provide support to children who are absent from school because of illness for a shorter period, for example when experiencing chicken pox or influenza. In some cases, where a child is hospitalised, the hospital may provide

education for the child within the hospital and the LA would not need to arrange any additional education, provided it is satisfied that the child is receiving suitable education. More generally, LAs should be ready to take responsibility for any child whose illness will prevent them from attending school for 15 or more school days, either in one absence or over the course of a school year, and where suitable education is not otherwise being arranged. Referral to the Home Tuition Co-ordinator is through the school's SENDCO. For more information contact the Pastoral Manager, Behaviour Service at Bromley Borough.

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 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 further reasonable adjustments need to be made

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Deputy Headteacher. 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 plan
- Supporting students with medical conditions/Managing Medicines policy