



# CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS THAT CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL

Document Details	
Policy author	Director of Operations
Authorised By	Trust Board
Date of Approval	May 2026
Date for Review	Annual or in response to updated guidance.

## REVIEW: Annually (Recommended)

Reviewed without changes May 2026

## UPDATES version 1.2 March 2025

2.	Legislations	Addition of statutory guidance: <a href="#">The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Alternative provision</a> DfE</li><li>• <a href="#">Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs</a> DfE</li></ul>
3.2	Responsibilities of the school	Local Authority named as Essex County Council
4	Monitoring Arrangements	Trustees will review this document annually

## UPDATES v 1.1 Jan 2024

3.1	Responsibilities of the school	<p>Text added: This may be through a range of methods such as sending work home and/or remote learning.</p> <p>The school will work closely with parents/carers to ensure that a suitable plan is formulated for the child.</p> <p>The school will again, work closely with parents/carers and appropriate external healthcare professionals to ensure a smooth transition back into face to face education.</p>
3.2	If the local authority makes the arrangements	Updated inline with <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school</a>
4	Monitoring Arrangements	Director of Operations added.

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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/carers understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority

# 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the following legislation:

- [The Education Act 1996](#)
- [The Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#)

It is also based on the following statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE):

- [Alternative provision](#)
- [Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)

This policy also follows guidance provided by our local authority.

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

# 3. Responsibilities of the school

## 3.1 If the school makes the arrangements

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

This may be through a range of methods such as sending work home and/or remote learning.

The school will work closely with parents/carers to ensure that a suitable plan is formulated for the child.

The school will again, work closely with parents/carers and appropriate external healthcare professionals to ensure a smooth transition back into face-to-face education.

## 3.2 If the local authority makes the arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Essex County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

When a local authority arranges alternative education, the education should begin as soon as possible, and at the latest by the 6th day of the child's absence from school.

Where full-time education is not in the child's best interest for reasons relating to their physical or mental health, the local authority must arrange part-time education on whatever basis it considers to be in the child's best interests.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school and trust will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers 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 Director of Operations. At every review, it will be approved by the full board of trustees.

#### 5. **Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions