Meopham School
EXELLENCE TOGETHER

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Equalities Statement

In our Trust we work to ensure that there is equality of opportunity for all members of our community who hold a range of protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, as well as having regard to other factors which have the potential to cause inequality, such as socio-economic factors. For further information, please see our Equalities Policy.

Approved by:	Alan Barham, Chair of Governors	Date: March 2024
Last reviewed on:	March 2024	
Next review due by:	March 2025	

Contents

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

2. Legislation and guidance

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

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority.
https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-attendance/children-with-long-term-illness

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

3. The responsibilities of the school

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 Pastoral Team and SENDCO will make arrangements and monitor them.

- We can arrange for work to be sent home. Pupils will also have access to Google Classroom where teaching staff will upload the work that needs to be completed. If we feel that it is appropriate, we can also make applications to Kent Health Needs Education Service for support: http://www.khnes.kent.sch.uk/ .

- We will ensure that we meet regularly with parents and pupils to discuss and monitor the arrangements.

- We will discuss with both parents and pupils how we will reintegrate pupils back into school and adapt it for their individual needs. Typically, we will arrange an 8-week reintegration part-time timetable that will allow pupils to come back gradually and will give us an opportunity to monitor progress.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

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 Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour and Safeguarding. 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 pupils with medical conditions