



Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Date	Review Date	Coordinators	Nominated Governor
October 2024	October 2025	Sarah Woodhouse	Michelle Hogan-Tricks

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 is also based on guidance provided by our local authority and the statutory guidance from the DfE: [Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school, 2013](#)

3. 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 class teacher will provide work and monitor engagement and progress of the pupil
- Work will be provided in-line with the National Curriculum. This may be via Google Classroom, email or be made available for parents/carers to collect from the school office on a weekly basis.
- Parents/carers and pupils will be consulted on their preferred method of delivery
- The school will endeavour to provide the technology or resources required to access the curriculum from home
- Pupils being integrated back into school following a period of absence will receive support from the school Learning Mentor, Nick James.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Hackney Education will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

- A referral to the Hackney Medical Needs Tuition Service (MNTS) will be made if the pupil is temporarily absent (or due to be absent) for at least 15 consecutive school days (in a row) or absent (or due to be absent) for at least 15 days over the course of the current academic year - due to medical reasons, including mental and physical ill-health.
- A referral will be made by the school SENCO. The referral must be supported by medical guidance from a Consultant level Doctor (not usually a GP) for physical health conditions or a CAMHS clinician for mental health needs.
- The MNTS is available to all children aged between 4 and 16 and who are resident in Hackney



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 Sarah Woodhouse, SENCO. At every review, it will be approved by a nominated governor.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

Headteacher:	Aoife O’Grady	Date:	01/10/24
Chair of Governing Body:	Mari-Anne Chiromo	Date:	01/10/24