

# CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY



**KING EDWARD VI  
ASTON SCHOOL**

*Educational excellence for our City*

<b>Responsible Board</b>	<b>PEOPLE COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Policy Officer</b>	<b>S Hall</b>
<b>Date Adopted</b>	<b>June 2024</b>
<b>Last Reviewed</b>	<b>June 2024</b>
<b>Reviewed by</b>	<b>S Hall</b>
<b>Review date</b>	<b>June 2025</b>

## Contents

1. Aims .....	3
2. Legislation and guidance.....	3
3. Responsibilities of the school .....	3
4. Monitoring arrangements.....	4
5. Links to other policies .....	4

## 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 our school is responsible for when education is being provided by the local authority (LA)

## 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 (2013)
- Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs (2023)

This policy also follows guidance provided by our local authority.

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/file/14276/supporting\\_pupils\\_with\\_medical\\_conditions\\_in\\_birmingham](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/file/14276/supporting_pupils_with_medical_conditions_in_birmingham)

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

## 3. Responsibilities of the school

DfE statutory guidance makes it clear that:

- The majority of pupils who experience medical needs are best provided for in their home school, with appropriate adjustments.
- Where the medical needs are so significant that education off-site is required for a period, this should be for the shortest appropriate time to prevent pupils losing their links with friends and to reduce the impact on attainment and progress.

### 3.1 If our school makes the arrangements

Initially, our school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver the same high standard of education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. Where the absence is less than 15 school days the director of inclusion and the Head of Year will arrange with the parent the most appropriate way to support learning to continue. Medical Evidence will be required to implement such support.

If a blended model of learning can continue to be provided, this can include:

- Part time in school teaching
- Online learning packages of support.
- Mentoring programmes to maintain engagement with school.

- Contact to support reintegration back to school.
- Activities planned to promote contact with peers and the teachers/keyworker (such as letters, videos, live chat, phone calls)

If the probable length of absence is going to be more than 15 days duration, please refer to section 3.2.

### 3.2 If the local authority makes the arrangements

When the pupil has been absent or it is known they will be absent for more than 15 school days or is attending school with significant health needs which are impacting upon their capacity to attend school, the school will obtain medical evidence from the relevant consultant and make a referral to Birmingham local authority for support.

For schools situated in the Birmingham Local Authority should make a referral to James Brindley. The information regarding this process can be found here:

<https://www.jamesbrindley.org.uk/page/?title=Referrals&pid=10>

- 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 Mr S Hall (Assistant Head Teacher with responsibility for attendance). 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