

Lunesdale Learning Trust

Policy for children with health needs who cannot attend school

Approved by:	The Trust Board	Date:
Last reviewed on:	Feb 2021	By : Hayley Gray & Rebecca Chapman
Next review due by:	Feb 2022	

Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable alternative education is arranged for pupils on our roll who cannot attend school due to a medical practitioner deeming them to be unfit for mainstream school on a temporary basis
- Pupils, staff and parents understand their responsibilities for when this education is being provided by another agency

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#) and the general good practice derived from [DfE guidance](#).

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority re their Hospital and Home Tuition Policy

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

The responsibilities of the school / LA

1. Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable alternative education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. This will require an appropriate medical practitioner to complete the '**Unfit for School Form**' (Appendix 1) and deeming the child 'unfit for mainstream school' on a temporary basis. Provision may take one of the following forms, depending on individual circumstances, availability and always led by regular reviews and updated specialist medical advice and with the ultimate aim of reintegration into mainstream school:
 - Work sent home by subject specialists / access to online learning resources
 - Referral to the Hospital and Home Tuition Service (Part time attendance at Hospital School in Kendal)
 - Allocation of a home tutor for 3-5 hours / week, providing temporary 1:1 supervised home tuition in the core subjects
2. If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, Cumbria LA will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children, and a referral will be made to the LA Inclusion Officer. Provision may then take one of the following forms:
 - Attendance at an alternative institution (e.g. specialist unit / college / hospital)
 - Referral to a specialist agency
3. In all these cases, 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
 - Review the provision offered to the pupil on a regular basis and ensure it is as effective as possible and with a plan for the child to be reintegrated back into school successfully as soon as appropriate
 - 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)
- Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school, which may include a formal flexi timetable contract, an LA authorised temporary reduced timetable or a gradual phased return reintegration plan
- Consider whether any other reasonable adjustments need to be made in school to allow for reintegration

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Assistant Headteacher(s) i/c Health / Attendance. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

Links to other policies

This policy links to the following LLT policies:

- Attendance Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy
- SEND policy

Appendix I Unfit for School Form

Alternative Educational provision : medical advice : This form is to be completed for any child who is deemed by a medical practitioner to be temporarily 'unfit for (mainstream) school' due to a medical condition in order to ensure appropriate alternative educational provision is put in place. All children, regardless of their health condition, should access a maximum of 5 hours of educational provision in some form. The medical information on this form will be used to decide the most appropriate provision.

1. About you (the medical practitioner)

Name : Representing :

Telephone number : E-mail address:

2. About the young person

Name : DOB:

3. About the reason for temporary alternative educational provision

Medical diagnosis :

Last seen on :

Frequency of intervention:

4. Medical advice on the most appropriate short term educational provision of this young person

Is this young person well enough to receive some education? Yes / No

Is this young person well enough to attend main stream school? Yes / full-time / part-time / No

If 'part time', please advise on appropriate amount of hours / days per week:

If 'no', is she / he well enough to leave the home? Yes / No

How many hours a week of education is the young person medically fit to access? (Max 5 hours)

What max session length (in hours) do you recommend?

How long do you recommend that this (temporary) provision continue?

5. Planning for the future

Please indicate on the reverse any advice as to how school can best support this child's successful return to mainstream education and what health care requirements, if any, are necessary for this pupil to be educated in their mainstream school?

Thank you for completing this form to support us in providing appropriate educational provision

Signed :

Date :