

Acklam Grange School



Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Status & Review Cycle	Term	Year
Last Review Date/Policy Adopted	Summer Term	2024-2025
Next Review Date	Summer Term	2025-2026
Lead	Mrs L Gowland	

This school is an academy within The Legacy Learning Trust.



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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 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](#).

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

3. The responsibilities of the school

We are responsible for ensuring that a student who cannot attend school for medical reasons is able to access education.

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.

Stages of support plans are used to plan short term strategies to ensure that education continues to be delivered. This maybe through:

- Part time timetables (reviewed every 3 weeks as a minimum)

3.2 If the local authority is required to make arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements or the arrangements are deemed to be required for a longer term, Middlesbrough Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. Middlesbrough offer the following services:

In patients to James Cook University Hospital:

Where a child/young person is admitted to James Cook University Hospital, education support is the responsibility of the home school up until the 15th day however, the parent or school can request that the Home and Hospital Teaching Service take on this duty (subject to mutual agreement of the school/provider and the child/young person health needs). 15 days can be cumulative over a school year not just 15 consecutive days. Provision should be put in place as soon as it is clear that the child will be away from school for 15 days or more.

Teaching within the community:

A child/young person may not be able to attend their home school due to recovering from an illness, have long term medical problems or have mental health issues. A personalised programme based on advice from the child/young person's medical professional will be developed. This could include teaching on a 1:1 basis at the child/young person's home (subject to risk assessment) or within a smaller classroom environment at a specified learning centre.

Inpatients to West Lane Hospital:

West Lane Hospital offers specialist inpatient mental health provision for adolescents.

Where a child/young person is admitted to West Lane Hospital, the Home and Hospital teaching staff are on site to provide education from day 1, subject to the child/young person's medical needs. Education whilst at West Lane takes place within the onsite classrooms on each ward.

The school work in partnership with medical professionals to ensure access to the right service for the needs of the student. If a student is not an inpatient, the school usually leads to make a referral to the local authority.

In cases where the local authority is providing education, 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
- Ensure that the student is dual registered with the provider
- 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 Lucy Gowland, Deputy Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Local Governing Body.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Medicines in school policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Attendance Policy