

Carrwood Primary School

Children with health need who cannot attend school policy



Date:	September 2025
Review Date:	September 2026
Signed by Chair of LGB:	<i>Paul Gibbs</i>

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.

<https://bsc.bradford.gov.uk/content/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/specialist-provision/medical-needs-and-hospital-education-service>

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

3. Responsibilities of the school

Schools in Bradford, as in the rest of the country, (including mainstream schools, academies, free schools, independent schools, special schools and alternative provision) are required by law to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions. Schools have the following responsibilities:

- Pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education.
- The governing board must ensure that arrangements are in place in schools to support pupils at school with medical conditions.
- The governing board should ensure that school leaders consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents/carers to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported.
- Ensure pupils with medical conditions access and enjoy the same opportunities as their peers
- Ensure that no pupil be denied admission unless it would be detrimental to their or others health to do so
- To have a named person with responsibility for pupils with medical needs
- To ensure pupils stay on the school role
- To host and chair regular review meetings (normally every 6 weeks); produce action plans and distribute notes of these meetings; produce appropriate medical evidence for continuing support.
- To provide materials for an appropriate programme of work and work plans
- To maintain a plan, such as an Individual Health Care Plan, which records progress made towards a return to school
- To ensure all staff are kept informed
- To ensure appropriate arrangements, including entry and invigilation are made for all examinations
- To provide the pupil's academic attainment levels including any relevant examination requirements
- To make arrangements for EHCA's and EHCP Reviews where appropriate
- To make arrangements for SATs

- To be active in the monitoring of progress and the reintegration into school, using key staff to facilitate the reintegration into school
- To ensure that pupils who are unable to attend school, are kept informed about school social events, are able to participate, for example, in homework clubs, study support and other activities
- To encourage and facilitate liaison with peers, for example, through visits and videos.

3.1 School arrangements

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

We will do this by:

- Our named person in school, Rebecca Heald-Pastoral Care Manager, will contact parents to plan for the education of their child while they are unable to attend school. She will also monitor the arrangements and make any amendments needed.
- School will arrange for suitable work to be sent home (this could include paper form or remotely), this will be prepared by the class teacher who will communicate with parents alongside the named person.
- Our Pastoral Care Manager will work alongside parents and other professionals to ensure a timely and appropriate reintegration to school.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Bradford Metropolitan District Council Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

Schools should make appropriate referrals to the Medical Needs and Hospital Education Service for pupils unable to attend school due to health reasons where it is clear that the pupil will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative. In these circumstances, parents/carers must bring medical evidence into school which confirms why the pupil is unable to attend school and states how long this is likely to be the case. Statutory guidance states that evidence should be such as that provided by a consultant, however in order to avoid delays the Medical Needs and Hospital Education Service will accept evidence from a GP if the young person is to be referred to a specialist clinician.

Once the Referral Form and evidence has been considered by the Local Authority and a decision about the referral has been made, the Medical Needs and Hospital Education Service will notify the school accordingly. A planning meeting will be arranged to confirm the appropriate arrangements which will be put in place. The Medical Needs and Hospital Education Service will also liaise with the parents and pupils. Parents/carers and pupils will normally be invited to attend these meetings.

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 Rebecca Heald-Pastoral Care Manager. 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
- › Bradford Metropolitan District Council Local Authority policy for Access to Education for Children and Young People with Medical Needs