



**ASPIRE LEARNING
PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS**

Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Date of Approval:	20 May 2026
Date of Next Review:	May 2027
Signed: Executive Headteacher	M Talbot
Signed: Chair of Governors	M Hall

Document History

Date	Change Reference	Summary of Change
12.06.2024		The policy has been updated to reflect the LA's new online reporting format and changes to their offer
03.05.2026		Link to LA notification form updated

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](#) and has been written using the guidelines supplied by Milton Keynes Local Authority.

3. The responsibilities and expectations on the school

- If a child is expected to be absent for 15 working days or less, and where this is not part of a pattern of absence related to chronic or recurring illness, arrangements will be made, in liaison with the parents, to provide schoolwork to be complete at home as soon as they become able to cope with it.
- Initial contact being made by the Head of School to establish the child's individual medical need and potential barriers to attending school
- Ensure that the LA is made aware as quickly as possible (at the latest on the sixth day of absence) using the 'Notification Form' system once it is recognised that a child is unable to attend school because of health reasons, where the absence is expected to last for more than 15 days (consecutive or cumulative), and where the absence has been formally recommended by a medical professional. The link to the form is here:
https://mycouncil.milton-keynes.gov.uk/service/Education_for_children_with_health_needs_who_cannot_attend_school
- If educational provision to support the child can be put in place without LA involvement, email the provision plan to SENDsupport@milton-keynes.gov.uk using the subject heading 'child with health needs provision plan.'
- Work in partnership with the family, hospital and/or medical professionals involved and LA as appropriate to:
 - 1) develop and share a provision plan with appropriate professionals and parents/carers, and review the plan at least half termly or whenever the child/young person's health condition changes
 - 2) invite the LA to development and review meetings of the plan where relevant and appropriate
 - 3) share promptly as appropriate information about the child/young person's curriculum, achievements, and any special educational needs / disabilities
 - 5) provide appropriate work and materials promptly and regularly

6) actively monitor progress and attainment where appropriate

7) be active in the smooth reintegration back into school, liaising with the LA and other agencies as necessary, through and review of the provision plan.

- Ensure that children/young people who are unable to attend school because of health reasons are kept informed about school social events and are enabled to participate in homework clubs, study support and other activities as appropriate
- Encourage and facilitate liaison with peers, for example, through visits, videos etc.
- If the school are unable to manage the needs of the child/young person without the intervention of the LA, the school should request support on the Notification Form system from the LA SEND services, giving reasons for and the type of support being requested
- Monitor attendance and mark registers so that they show if a child is, or ought to be, receiving education otherwise than at school for health reasons:

Schools should not remove a child from the school register unless written medical evidence states that they will be unable to attend school for the rest of their compulsory schooling.

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the governing board. 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