



Woodcot
Primary School

TOGETHER WE LEARN AND GROW



UPAT

University of Portsmouth
Academy Trust

Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Written by:	Headteacher
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Statutory / Non-Statutory:	Statutory
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Being

Everyone in our community has the capability and competence to develop and flourish. We create engaging opportunities for each individual to learn, make sense of the world, and realise their unique potential.

Belonging

Each school in the Trust is a place of belonging, where everyone feels valued, accepted, included and supported. Our schools are safe, respectful learning communities, where diversity is welcome and celebrated.

Becoming

We are ambitious for everyone in our community. We use responsive and innovative approaches to learning and development, to build confidence, and nurture the essential qualities of creativity, independence and resilience.

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#). It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

The responsibilities of the school

At Woodcot Primary School, we aim to ensure that all children, regardless of circumstance or setting receive a good education to enable them to shape their own futures. Where children are unable to attend school because of their health, the school will follow Department of Education Guidance and work with Hampshire Local Authority who have the responsibility to arrange suitable full-time education (or part-time when appropriate for the child's needs) for children who are unable to attend a mainstream school because of their health. The Local Authority is responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for children who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. There will however, be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the Local Authority, for example, where the child can still attend school with some support. Where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child; or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in a hospital by an on-site hospital school, we would not expect the Local Authority to become involved in such arrangements unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable or, while otherwise suitable, was not full-time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health. This might be the case where, for example, the child can attend school but only intermittently.

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.

This will involve:

- Initial contact being made by the pastoral team to establish the child's individual medical need and potential barriers to attending school
- Arrangements being agreed and established e.g. sending work home (including the provision of virtual learning through school's identified learning programmes), education offsite (including through hospital schools) or additional adult support within school (in line with an individual health care plan as appropriate)
- On-going discussions between families, school and health providers to monitor agreed arrangements and identify when/ how pupils can be reintegrated back into school (where appropriate)
- Liaising with the SENCo for pupils who also have Special Educational Needs (SEN)

The class teacher will monitor these arrangements. In liaison with the parent, the school will arrange for work to be sent home or to hospital. Where relevant, staff will liaise with outside agencies such as health and medical personnel. If parents/carers are unable to collect this, we will arrange for this to be delivered by a member of the pastoral team or sent via post/email by the admin team.

When a child is ready to return to school, we will hold a meeting to ensure a smooth transition occurs. This may include returning on a part time basis as they reacclimatise to the learning environment.

If the local authority makes arrangements:

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Hampshire County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

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
- Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school
- Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

Hampshire County Council (HCC) - Policy for Access to Education for School Age Children and Young People with Medical Needs

Please read this policy in conjunction with Hampshire County Council (HCC) – [Policy for access to education for school age children and young people with medical needs](#)

Important Contacts

- ISS (when ill health persist beyond 15 days and the school does not require alternative provision to be provided by HCC) attendance.queries@hants.gov.uk
- The named officer for HCC is Jon Willcocks (Inclusion Support Manager) Jonathan.Willcocks@hants.gov.uk

This policy links to the following policies: Accessibility plan and the SEND Policy.