



# Pendle Education Trust



## Policy/Procedure/Guideline Review

<b>Policy/Procedure/Guideline:</b>	Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy
<b>Senior Manager Responsible:</b>	J Pilkington, Principal C Thomas, Assistant Principal
<b>Approval:</b>	December 2025
<b>Review date:</b>	Annually



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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 (LA).

### 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the following legislation:

- [The Education Act 1996](#)
- [The Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#)

It is also based on the following statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE):

- [Alternative provision](#)
- [Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school](#)

This policy also follows guidance provided by our local authority <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/hospital-or-home-teaching-if-your-child-is-ill/>

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

### 3. Responsibilities of the school

#### 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.

The Senior Leader with responsibility for students with medical issues, will look into a range of options including sending work home, setting and delivering tasks online, using the NT&AS etc

Classroom teachers will be responsible for setting and marking the work this will be overseen by the Senior Leader.

The Senior Leader will direct the most appropriate member of staff to act as the school contact that will liaise with parents & student to make sure the arrangements work for them.

There will then be a phased reintegration back into school, including reduced timetable, support in & out of class at the time when the student is able to return to school.

#### 3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements



If the school can't make suitable arrangements, or if it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days (consecutive or over the course of the year) or more because of their health needs, Lancashire County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

The Academy will liaise with Lancashire County Council to inform them of any students who are not able to attend due to medical conditions to discuss suitable provisions.

#### **Contacts**

Hospital and home teach co-ordinator, Royal Preston Hospital; Tel: 07815 997 932

ELCAS Day Unit, Burnley Hospital; Tel: 01282 803431

Where a permanent medical placement and therefore change of school is needed, the school will refer these students to LCC through the medical panel referral system which sits fortnightly by submitting medical evidence to [sssmedicalreferrals@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:sssmedicalreferrals@lancashire.gov.uk)

When the local authority arranges alternative education, the education should begin as soon as possible, and at the latest by the 6<sup>th</sup> day of the child's absence from school.

Where full-time education is not in the child's best interest for reasons relating to their physical or mental health, the local authority must arrange part-time education on whatever basis it considers to be in the child's best interests.

In cases where the local authority makes the arrangements, our school will:

- Provide to the local authority, at agreed intervals, the full name and address of any pupils of compulsory school age who are not attending school regularly due to their health needs
- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers to ensure the best outcomes for the child
- Collaborate with the local authority to ensure continuity of provision and consistency of curriculum, including making information available about the curriculum
- Along with the local authority, regularly review the provision offered to ensure it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- When a child has complex or long-term health issues, work with the local authority, parents/carers and the relevant health services to decide how best to meet the child's needs (e.g. through individual support, arranging alternative provision or by them remaining at school, being supported at home and back into school after each absence)
- Where possible, allow the child to take examinations at the same time as their peers, and work with the local authority to support this
- Help make sure 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 child to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible, including through digital resources
  - Enable the child to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, digital learning platforms, social media platforms, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school), and, where appropriate, through educational visits
  - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school, which includes extra support to fill any gaps arising from the absence
  - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made



## 4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by J Pilkington, Principal C Thomas, Assistant Principal. At every review, it will be approved by the local academy council.

## 5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Attendance Policy

