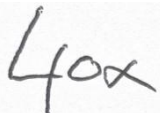



Children with health needs who cannot attend school Policy

Policy Date:	Spring term 2026		
Policy Review Date:	Spring term 2027	Head Teacher Miss E Smith/Mr L Fox	Chair of Governors Miss E Harrop
		Signature: 	Signature: 

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1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable, high-quality 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 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](#)
- [Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)

This policy also follows guidance provided by our local authority which can be found at [Supporting the education of children with medical needs | Leicester City Council](#)

3. The School responsibilities and arrangements

The governors will ensure that:

- Arrangements for pupils who cannot attend school as a result of their medical needs are in place and are effectively implemented
- A termly review of the arrangements made for pupils who cannot attend school due to their medical needs
- The roles and responsibilities of those involved in the arrangements to support the needs of pupils are clear and understood by all
- Robust systems are in place for dealing with health emergencies and critical incidents, for both on- and off-site activities
- Staff with responsibility for supporting pupils with health needs are appropriately trained and supported

Headteacher and SENDCO will ensure that:

Where a pupil has a complex or long-term health issue, Imperial Avenue Infant School will discuss the pupil's needs with parents and consider how their needs may be best met in conjunction with the LA, relevant medical professionals and, where appropriate, the pupil.

Imperial Avenue Infant School will support pupils with health needs to attend full-time education wherever possible, or the school may make reasonable adjustments to pupils' programme of study where medical evidence supports the need for those adjustments. These reasonable adjustments may be recorded in a pupil's individual healthcare plan (IHCPs), in accordance with the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.

Pupils admitted to hospital will receive education as determined appropriate by the medical professionals and hospital tuition team at the hospital concerned. During a period of absence, Imperial Avenue Infant School will work with the provider of the pupil's education to establish and maintain regular communication and effective outcomes. Where appropriate, Imperial Avenue Infant School will provide the pupil's education provider with relevant information, curriculum materials and resources.

Whilst a pupil is away from school, Imperial Avenue Infant School will ensure the pupil can successfully remain in touch with their school through school newsletters, emails/weduc messages, Invitations to school events, cards or letters from peers and staff. Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver a suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. The Headteacher, SENDCo and class teacher will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements.

The school will discuss arrangements for working from home or hospital with parents / carers. A plan will be drawn up detailing agreed actions from the discussion, the plan will be signed by school and parents / carers. The plan will then be carried out to deliver education to the child.

Arrangements could include sending work home, the pupil attending a hospital school whilst they are an in-patient or access to online learning such as Google Classroom/ lessons over teams. Work will be prepared by class teachers.

Once the pupil is able, they will be integrated back into school with alternative arrangements to make it possible. These will be discussed with parents and the pupil in conjunction with any medical advice from other professionals. To help ensure a pupil with additional health needs is able to attend school following an extended period of absence, adaptations may need to be considered including:

- a personalised or part-time timetable, drafted in consultation with parents, education welfare officer and the named staff member;
- additional support in school, where possible;
- online access to the curriculum from home;
- movement of lessons to more accessible rooms;
- places to rest at school;
- alternative provision for break or lunch times.

3.1 If the local authority makes arrangements or role of Local Authority

If Imperial Avenue Infant School can't make suitable arrangements, Leicester City Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. In line with their policy which can be found at [Supporting the education of children with medical needs | Leicester City Council](#)

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, Imperial Avenue Infant School will 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

3.2 Role of Parent/Carer

If their child is too unwell to attend school they will notify the school on the first day of the child's absence or in advance - if a medical appointment or hospital stay is planned. The school will then notify the Education Welfare team if the absence is likely to be 15 days or more.

If applicable provide evidence from health professionals. Give permission, to contact the key health professionals, which support the child, to identify the best way to engage them in education and re-integration back into school.

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the SENDCO.

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
- › Attendance policy
- › Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- › Medicines policy
- › SEND and Inclusion Policy