BLEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL
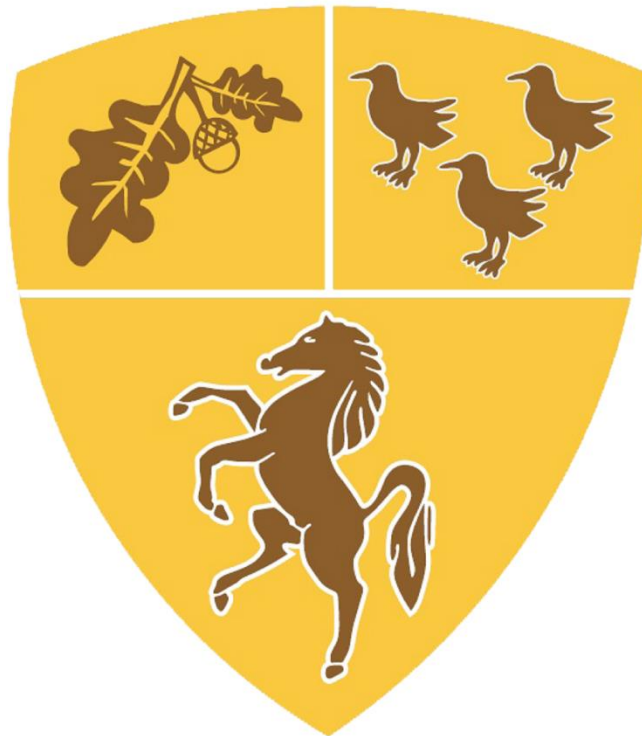
Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Policy Review Date: November 2022

Headteacher: Mr I Rowden

Chair of Governors: Hugh Samuelson

Date of Next Review: November 2024

Contents

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

Equality Act 2010

Data Protection Act 2018

DfE (2013) 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school

because of health needs'

DfE (2015) 'Supporting children at school with medical conditions'

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/pru-inclusion-and-attendance-service-pias/pupil-referral-unit-and-alternative-provision/kent-health-needs-education-service

3. Responsibilities of the school

If a child is of school age and unable to go to school because they are in hospital or they have a long-term medical condition, there is help available for them to continue their education.

This may include:

- home tuition
- education at a local centre or other office
- education in hospital.

The type of help we offer will depend on your child's specific illness or medical needs. To be eligible for our help, your child must have a suitably long-term medical condition. Short hospital stays or illnesses don't count.

Under 2013 government statutory guidance, the school has the initial responsibility in making necessary arrangements or adjustments to meet a child's health needs. As soon as a parent/carer knows that their child has a long-term illness or medical condition parents/carers need to talk to the school so that the school can provide necessary support.

If the school is unable to provide the support, they may refer a child to The Rosewood School who will get in touch with you if your child is eligible for our help.

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 Headteacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will liaise with parents/carers to put in place suitable arrangements to ensure the best continuity of learning possible.

- The Headteacher or another Member of SLT will monitor arrangements between home and school, including liaison with teachers.

- The SLT will ensure that appropriate work is sent home or sent to hospital schools where this is relevant.

- Where a child is not attending due to ill health, it is important that they feel supported in their learning. It is also important that each child's situation is assessed on an individual basis and that the child's needs are met accordingly.

- The Headteacher or a member of the SLT will also be responsible for ensuring a supported reintegration of the child back into school after an extended period of illness. Again, this will include close liaison with parents/carers, the PPM, teachers and the LA.

- When a child returns to school after an extended period of absence due to ill health, the school will closely monitor the child for one school term and support their settling back into their learning and school life.

- Should the child require further support, the School will make the necessary referrals, either to in-school support programmes or outside agencies. This will be done in consultation with parents/carers.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements the Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

The school will make a referral to the Local Authority's Kent Health Needs Education Service. This service should accept and act on their following criteria:

- Pupils whose mental health needs are at Tier 3 (CAMHS).

- Pupils whose physical health is evidenced by a hospital (paediatrician, consultant or registrar) to be too unwell to attend school. This applies to pupils whose cases are managed by hospitals within Kent as well as in more specialist hospitals in London and across the country.

- Pupils whose illness has reduced their school attendance to less than 50%

Pupils with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)

Where pupils with an EHCP develop additional health needs, the school will call an interim review meeting to agree the referral.

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 Ian Rowden, Headteacher. 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