



The Duke of York's Royal Military School

Children with Health Needs who cannot attend School

Date of Approval

10/02/2024

Approved By

Col Andy Thorne

Role

Chairman of Trustees

Signed

Last Reviewed	February 2024
Next Review	February 2025



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of Defence



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AIMS

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs.
- Students, staff, and parents understand what the School is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority.

LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

This policy reflects the requirements of the following:

- Education Act 1996
- Equality Act 2010
- DfE (2013) 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school. because of health needs'
- DfE (2015) 'Supporting students at school with medical conditions.'

It is also based on guidance provided by **our** local authority:

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

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SCHOOL

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

- The Vice Principal in conjunction with the student's tutor and Housemaster/Mistress, will liaise with parents/carers to put in place suitable arrangements, to ensuring the best continuity of learning possible. This may be done through the provision of work schedules, sharing of electronic resources or, where appropriate, virtual learning platforms.
- The Vice Principal will monitor arrangements between home and school, including liaison with Subject Leaders and teachers. They will confirm that arrangements that are put in place to meet the student's health/medical needs are fully understood by all those involved and acted upon. They will ensure that appropriate work is sent home or sent to hospital schools, where this is relevant.
- The Vice Principal will monitor the student's engagement with the work and liaise with the student's parents/carers and teachers where necessary. The Vice Principal may delegate some tasks related to home-schooling to the SENCO.
- The Vice Principals will also be responsible for ensuring a supported reintegration of the student back into school after an extended period of illness. Again, this will include close liaison with parents/carers and Housemaster/Mistress.
- When a student returns to school after an extended period of absence due to ill health, the Housemaster/Mistress and Vice Principal will closely monitor the student's progress for one school term and support their settling back into their learning and school life.

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

If the local authority makes arrangements

If the School cannot make suitable arrangements, the student's LA will become responsible for arranging suitable education.

The School will make a referral to the student's Local Authority, provide support in the event that:

- Medical needs that are such that the young person has missed 15 days of schooling (consecutive or cumulative).
- The young person's health has significantly reduced their ability to access their school full time, and this is reflected in their attendance record.
- A senior medical professional (such as a consultant, mental health practitioner etc) is providing support, diagnosis and/or advice.
- A change in medical advice or medication has meant that a young person requires increased medical review, intervention, support, or flexibility to allow them to attend education full time.
- 'Health need' can mean either a physical, or mental health condition, disrupting the young person's ability to attend school full time.
- A young person has been discharged from tier 4 Mental Health Service and requires on-going support before full time reintegration to school.
- When further dialogue post-referral is required, there may be the need for further discussion with medical professionals to ensure that correct decisions are reached in the best interest of the student.

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 student.
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services, as required.
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the student is as effective as possible and that the child can be reintegrated back into school successfully.

When reintegration is anticipated, the School will work with all relevant parties to:

- Plan for consistent provision during and after the period of education outside school, allowing the student to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school, as far as possible and appropriate.
- Enable the student to stay in touch with school life (e.g., through communication with Tutor, Housemaster/Mistress, emails, invitations to school events and House TEAMS).
- Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school. This may involve contribution from the Medical Centre and SENCO.
- Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made to provide access to School and the curriculum, including personalised timetable (drafted in consultation with the Vice Principal), access to additional support in school; relocation of lessons; places to rest; special examination arrangements.
- Where necessary, ensure that staff are trained in a timely manner to assist with the student's return to school.

MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Vice Principal. At every review, it will be approved by the full Board of Trustees.