

EDUCATING CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL NEEDS POLICY

1 Introduction

The School is committed to ensuring that all learners with medical needs continue to have access to as much education as their medical condition allows suited to their needs, age and ability.

The School will carry this out by ensuring that:

- The disruption to schooling is minimised by continuing education as normally as the incapacity allows.
- Suitable arrangements are in place to enable the learning process to continue.
- Wherever possible progress is maintained.
- Education is kept alive in the learner's life.
- Learners receive appropriate care and support.
- There are effective links with parents/carers and all those involved in the education, health and welfare of the child.
- There is a named member of staff responsible for the education of children and young people with medical needs.
- A school governor has responsibility for the annual review of the policy and procedures that apply to educating children and young people with medical needs.

2 Supporting Learners in School

Learners with medical needs who remain in school will be given care and support as appropriate to enable them to access as much of the curriculum as their medical condition allows.

The designated teacher (Miss Blackburn) will take overall responsibility for the education of children and young people with medical needs and ensure that:

- There is effective communication between all those involved.
- Together with senior staff there is a pastoral system that supports and promotes the learner's well being.
- The views of the learner and the parent/carer are taken into account.
- All relevant staff are made aware of the needs of the learner and appropriate training and guidance is sought where necessary.
- Wherever possible children and young people manage their own medication.

- Cornwall Council protocols on the administration of medication and staff training are followed.
- When necessary a Health Care Plan is set up and monitored.
- If appropriate a Personal Education Plan is set up and monitored.
- The Education Welfare Officers are informed if the illness or injury necessitates absences from school.
- Homework, books and other relevant materials are sent home for children who are expected to be absent for 15 days or less.
- There is effective liaison with other professionals to ensure the needs of children and young people can be identified early

3 Supporting Learners Out of School

The School aims to provide continuity of education for a child or young person who is unable to attend school because of medical needs. The School will ensure that educational needs are identified and educational support is quickly and efficiently given.

The School will carry this out by:

- Referring learners if their absence is, or is likely to be more than 15 days.
- Providing detailed attainment data and other relevant information including information about any ICT resources that may enable learners to access the full range of curriculum opportunities.
- Providing appropriate curricular materials, plans and assessment as quickly as possible to enable learners to keep up with their peers.
- Monitoring work that the learner misses.
- Ensuring that learners have access to public examinations and that any special arrangements are made.
- Working with the home and hospital tutor to prepare a Personal Education Plan.
- Arranging planning and review meetings in school as appropriate.
- Liaising with the home and hospital tutor to monitor progress.
- Arranging multi agency meetings in school if required.
- Enabling the named member of staff to attend regular interviews for children with long term illnesses or mental health problems.

The School will carry this out by:

- Considering the need for assessment under the Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Pupils with Special Educational Needs, of learners with a medical need.
- Monitoring attendance and marking the registers so that they show if a learner is, or ought to be, receiving education otherwise than at school.

- Maintaining contact with parents/carers during the time that the learner is absent from school owing to illness or injury, for example by keeping them informed of school events.
- Enabling absent learners, if possible, access to lessons/work via Teams/Zoom, Seesaw or email.
- Ensuring that as much contact as possible is maintained between the learners and his/her peers or teachers by the possible use of letters, visits, emails, videos, Seesaw.

3 Supporting Learners Through Reintegration

The School will, wherever possible, encourage a successful reintegration after absence owing to illness or injury.

The School will do this by:

- Liaising with the home and hospital tutor to determine a reintegration strategy and placement objectives as soon as possible after referral so that the learner understands the long term goal.
- Holding reintegration meetings at school.
- Supporting a flexible approach with regard to timetabling and curriculum.
- Welcoming learners back into school.
- Having positive working relationship with all agencies and retaining this contact once a learner has returned to school in order to monitor progress.
- Ensuring that peers are involved in supporting the learner's reintegration.
- Making use of ICT to provide a bridge between hospital, home and school to provide continuity.
- Considering part time education for learners who are in the recovery phase.
- Taking the views of parents/carers into account particularly with regard to requests that children and young people are excluded from certain activities because of their medical needs.

Reviewed September 2022
To be reviewed September 2023

Paula Blackburn, Executive Headteacher

Mr Russ Monhemius Chair of Governors