



Wimbledon College

Children with health needs who cannot attend school Policy

Agreed by the Governing Body: December 2023
Reviewed March 2026

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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

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the following:

The Education Act 1996

Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions [DfE 2015]

Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs [DfE 2023]

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority. [See London Borough of Merton's webpage - [Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions](#)]

3. Responsibilities of the school

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver an appropriate education for pupils with health needs who cannot attend school.

This support will be coordinated by the pupil's Head of Year, who will liaise with the pupil's parents, the pupil's teachers, the SENDCo and other agencies as appropriate.

Where it is appropriate to do so work will be arranged by the school and made available to the pupil either via Google Classroom or via parents.

When the pupil is well enough to return to school the pupil's Head of Line will meet with the pupil and their parents to develop a suitable reintegration programme.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, the London Borough of Merton or the pupil's Local Authority [where they are resident] will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils. [See 'Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs. DfE 2023 - Section 'When and how to provide support']

The school will liaise with the Local Authority Educational Welfare Service and when appropriate [i.e. that is for pupils with a long-term medical condition] make a referral to appropriate provision, including Melbury College, in order to consider how best to support the pupil's education.

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 the Governors' Cura Personalis Committee.

At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

It will next be reviewed by April 2027

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions