



Children with Medical Conditions who cannot attend school

Author	SEND Support Consultant
Name of responsible officer	L Paston (Interim Headteacher)
Approving Committee	Governing Body
Statutory Basis	Statutory Policy
Requirement to publish on website	Yes

Reviewed	March 2025
Date ratified by approving committee	
Review period	Every Year
Review date	March 2026

Contents

1. Policy purpose and intent.....	2
2. Legislation and guidance.....	2
3. The responsibilities of Vermont School and the Local Authority.....	2
4. Safeguarding arrangements.....	3
5. Monitoring arrangements.....	4
6. Links to other policies.....	4

1. Policy purpose and intent

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/carers understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the Local Authority

To ensure that pupils at Vermont School have the best opportunities Vermont will:

- Ensure there is a policy in place that sets out the expectations, roles, responsibilities, processes and systems in place to support children with medical conditions cannot attend school
- Ensure all staff are familiar with the contents of the policy and the government guidance
- Ensure staff consider a bespoke package in responding to a child's need
- Ensure robust processes are in place to monitor the effectiveness of the policy
- Use our best endeavours to meet the needs of all children.

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996 and the Equalities Act 2010. It is also based on guidance provided nationally and by the local authorities;

- [Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)
- [Pupils with medical needs](#)

3. The responsibilities of Vermont School and the Local Authority

If Vermont School makes arrangements

Vermont School will attempt to make arrangements to deliver a suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

A suitable school leader will be responsible for the oversight of the remote offer and for maintaining contact with the pupil and parents.

The arrangements may be sending work home, sending work to hospital schools or an agreed reduced timetable (in which case the appropriate Local Authority will be informed).

We will consult with parents/carers and the appropriate professional about these arrangements; often the school nursing team will be involved in this process and an Individual Health Care Plan completed.

We will work closely with the parents/carers or organisations to ensure that any possible reintegration back into school is appropriate for the child.

We will ensure that close contact is maintained between the school and the child. We will be particularly mindful of the need to ensure the pupil maintains some contact with peers so they continue to feel part of their class.

If the local authority makes arrangements

If Vermont School cannot make suitable arrangements, we will contact the appropriate Local Education Authority and request that they will become responsible for arranging an education for these children. This will usually be when the child needs a tutor because they are experiencing an extended period away from Vermont School and Vermont School cannot meet the needs of the child. Vermont will complete a form for the Inclusion Support Service with the supporting medical evidence.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, Vermont School will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers to ensure the best outcomes for the child
- Share information with the appropriate local authority and relevant health services as required
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the pupils 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 Vermont 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. Safeguarding arrangements

It is vital that school leaders and DSLs take a keen interest in the safeguarding of children working at home recognising they are vulnerable children. Mechanisms should be put in place to ensure pupils are monitored to keep them safe from harm.

The following list of protective measures is not exhaustive. The first three measures are expected as a minimum.

- Regular contact is made with the child. This includes talking to, and sight of the child
- Any child using a computing device will be reminded about online safety. Where a school provides a device, schools will check that the appropriate controls are in place.
- The child knows who their safe adult is in school and how to contact them
- Remote access is provided to some assemblies and PSHE lessons that support safeguarding messages – particularly regarding consent and safe/appropriate touch.
- School makes regular contact with agencies who visit and have sight of the child.

5. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by school leaders.

6. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Accessibility plan
- Remote learning policy
- Safeguarding policy