



Children with Health Needs who cannot attend school

	Date	Signature
Reviewed	February 2022	D Mead
Reviewed	February 2024	D Mead
Review	March 2026	D Mead

Version Control

Date	Change
February 2024	Added in Gateway panel meeting fortnightly and reference to the ISAT panel.
March 2026	Section 2 - Added in further links to legislation and guidance – reference to the 2006 Education Regulations, alternative provision and Government guidance on children who cannot attend school with health needs. Section 4. Added in (Bromley Home and Hospital Tuition Service and Bromley Gateway Panel referral) Taken out referral form as this is done online via the gateway link

Contents

1. Aims	3
2. Legislation and Guidance	3
3. The responsibilities of the Local Authority	3
4. What we will do in school	4
5. Reintegration	5
6. Monitoring Arrangements	5
7. Links to other policies	6
Appendix A Gateway Panel Referral Form	7

1. Aims

Raglan School aims to work with the Local Authority (Bromley) to ensure that all children who are unable to attend school due to medical needs continue to have access to as much education as their medical condition allows.

There may be occasions when children have to be admitted to hospital due to the nature of their health needs, but whenever possible, pupils should be educated in school and we will aim to reintegrate them back into school as soon as they are well enough.

When children cannot be in school, we will work with the local authority, healthcare partners and parents to ensure that the children receive the correct level of support and ongoing contact with the school to maintain their links with their class and teachers.

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

This policy applies only to children with a serious medical need or condition; it does not apply in the case of children missing school due to normal childhood illness. Children should always attend school if they are well enough to do so, and if they are not then work will not be provided for them as they would not be well enough to complete this.

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of:

[Education Act 1996,](#)

[Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs 2013](#)

[Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions 2015](#)

[The Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#)

[Alternative Provision](#)

[Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school](#)

and complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. The responsibilities of the Local Authority

All Local authorities (LAs) must have regard to the statutory guidance when carrying out their duty to arrange suitable full-time education (or part-time when appropriate for the child's needs) for children who are unable to attend a mainstream or special school because of their health. This duty applies to all children and young people who would normally attend mainstream schools, including Academies, Free Schools, independent schools and special schools, or where a child is not on the role of a school. It applies equally whether a child cannot attend school at all or can only attend intermittently.

LAs are responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for children who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. This means that where a child cannot attend school because of health problems, and would not otherwise receive a suitable full-time education, the LA is responsible for arranging provision and must have regard to the guidance.

There will be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the LA – for example, where the child can still attend school with some support; where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child; or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in a hospital by an on-site hospital school.

4. What we will do in school

Where possible, we will make arrangements to ensure that a pupil who is on our roll but unable to attend is provided with suitable high-quality education, this will include:

- Remote provision (Via Bromley Gateway Panel referral)
- Sending learning home
- Liaising with hospital schools (or Bromley Home and Hospital Tuition Service)

We will at all times ensure that the child, and their parents, are aware of the arrangements that we are making and we will work with parents and medical professionals to ensure that the learning provided is of a suitable amount bearing in mind the child's health needs. We will do this for so long as is reasonably practicable, albeit that the responsibility lays with the LA if a child is absent from school for 15 days or more.

If a point is reached where we cannot continue to provide a suitable education, or more than 15 days has lapsed, then we would liaise with the LA to ensure a smooth transition of the responsibility to them. In Bromley, The Home and Hospital Tuition Service is available to pupils who are unable to access school due to medical needs. Pupils are referred via the Local Authority Gateway Panel with evidence of need. The Gateway panel meets fortnightly and prior discussion with the ISAT team is required prior to referral. Referrals are made online at:

<https://www.bromley.gov.uk/educationgatewaypanel>

It is intended as a means of delivering a short term education provision in order to help support and reintegrate our pupils back into their mainstream school or another more suitable provision.

Referral to the Home and Hospital Tuition Service can be made by the school or another professional currently caring for the child. Referrals will be sent to the Gateway Panel for consideration which sits every 2 weeks. Once successful the referring agency and family will be contacted.

It is vital that the referral form is signed by the parents / carers and accompanied with a letter from the Healthcare consultant. In the case of SEND pupils, referral should be made via the SEND department in Bromley.

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.

5. Reintegration

When a child has been away from school for an extended period, they may feel anxious about coming back to school. We will make positive plans for reintegration, working with the LA where appropriate. Throughout the pupil's absence, we will be mindful that the eventual aim will be to reintegrate them as soon as possible, once their health allows. We will do this by:

- Planning 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
- Enabling the pupil to stay in touch with school life through newsletters, emails, invitations to school events and internet links to Personal Development and SRE sessions in school
- Creating an individually tailored reintegration plan for the child with regard to their health and medical needs.
- Considering whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed reviewed bi-annually by the Trust and appropriate school based leader. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

Accessibility plan

Attendance Policy

Children Missing in Education

Supporting pupils with medical conditions

SEND Policy

Raglan Primary School and Nursery
Part of Connect Schools Academy Trust