

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL

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1. Policy statement

- 1.1 The Two Counties Trust is committed to ensuring that students and parents / carers (families) understand the absolute importance of full attendance at school. However, the Trust appreciates that there may be times when the health needs of students preclude their attendance at school. As a Trust, we are committed to supporting these children and their families to enable them to access the best educational opportunities possible, supporting their future life choices.

Health and medical needs may include:

- Physical health issues
- Physical injuries
- Mental health problems
- Emotional difficulties
- Progressive conditions
- Terminal illness
- Chronic illness

2. Scope and Purpose

- To create a culture in which students are enabled to become mature and industrious, accepting responsibility for their own actions and preparing for future success linked to employability standards.
- To form an active partnership with families to support the learning of their children.
- To ensure regular contact with students in order to safeguard their well-being.
- To provide every opportunity for our students to secure outstanding outcomes and reach their full potential linked to our values of Ambition, Teamwork, and Honesty.

3. 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 families understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority.

4. Legislation and Guidance

- 4.1 This policy reflects the requirements of the [Equality Act 2010](#), [Education Act 1996](#), Section 19 and takes its lead from government advice that can be found at: www.gov.uk/children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school.
- 4.2 This policy complies with our Funding Agreement and Articles of Association.

5. The responsibilities of a school within The Two Counties Trust

- 5.1 Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

The child's Pastoral Leader, working in conjunction with the SEND team will coordinate arrangements for the child's education. This could include an adapted timetable, work being sent home, an adapted curriculum or a member of staff visiting the home.

- 5.2 Where possible, and appropriate, the school would look to provide IT solutions to allow the student to access and complete work from home.
- 5.3 Decisions will always be made in conjunction with parents' wishes and with the guidance of outside agencies where relevant. Meetings will be held on a regular basis to implement and review provision.
- 5.4 Children will be reintegrated back into school when appropriate, and may include; an adapted curriculum, a modified timetable, support from the pastoral team or support from the SEND team. If the school cannot



make suitable arrangements, the local authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for affected children.

- 5.5 Education for a child would be deemed unsuitable if the child was deemed to be missing education for an extended period.
- 5.6 Education from the school would be unsuitable if the child was unable to attend school due to medical reasons for a substantial period of time. The school would make a referral to the local authority Hospital Home Education Team.
- 5.7 In cases where the local authority make arrangements, the school will:
- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and families 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.
- 5.8 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 student to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible.
 - Enable the student to stay in touch with school life, for example 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.

6. The responsibilities of parents/carers /families

- 6.1 To work co-operatively with The Two Counties Trust and the school to ensure the best outcome for their child.
- 6.2 To provide the school with up-to-date information and changes to their child's needs.
- 6.3 When necessary, to attend meetings and accept telephone calls to discuss and plan the support needed for their child.

7. Monitoring arrangements

- 7.1 This policy will be reviewed annually by the Trust. At every review, it will be approved by the Board of Trustees.

8. Links to other Plans and Policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- School Accessibility Plan.
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions.
- SEND policy.

9. General data Protection Regulation

All data within this policy will be processed in line with the requirements and protections set out in the General Data Protection Regulation.

