



Policy for Students who cannot Attend School for Health Reasons

The School follows the DfE advice as found at <https://www.gov.uk/illness-child-education>. Also see the other relevant School Policies, including: First Aid, Supporting Students with Medical Conditions & the Administration of Medicines Policy, Safeguarding, Mental Health, and Self-Harm.

If a student cannot attend school

If a student cannot attend school for a significant period of time because of illness or injury, we will provide support to make sure their education does not suffer, liaising with their Local Authority as appropriate.

The school's role

The School will:

- communicate with the student's parents/guardians about how best to support the student
- encourage them to stay in contact with other students, e.g. through visits, videos, messages
- send them work to do at home, where and if appropriate
- make sure they're kept informed about school events and clubs
- help them reintegrate at school when they return
- let the student's Local Authority know if the student is likely to be away from school for more than 15 school days
- give the student's Local Authority information about the student's needs, capabilities and the programme of work

The Local Authority's role

If the student is going to be away for a long time, their Local Authority will make sure they get as normal an education as possible. This could include arranging:

- home teaching
- a hospital school or teaching service
- a combination of home and hospital teaching

The student's Local Authority must make sure the student continues to get a full time education - unless part time is better for their health needs.

The student's Local Authority should also:

- have a senior officer in charge of the arrangements and a written policy explaining how they'll meet their responsibilities
- make sure the student isn't without access to education for more than 15 school days
- arrange education from the start of the student's absence if it's clear they're going to be away from school for long and recurring periods

Where laptops are needed for disadvantaged students to support their learning at home, the school will do their best to loan one where possible.

This policy will be reviewed every two years.

Last reviewed: February 2025