

Southover CE Primary School

Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy



Approved by: Full Governors

Date: Dec 2025

Last reviewed on: Dec 2025

Next review due by: Dec 2026

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

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#).

It also based on guidance provided by East Sussex County Council

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/education-learning/schools/attendance-behaviour/too-sick>

EDUCATION EAST SUSSEX TEACHING AND LEARNING PROVISION Medical Needs Service Policy

Responsibilities of Southover CE Primary School and East Sussex County Council

Schools (including maintained schools, maintained nursery schools, academies, and alternative provision academies) are required by law to make arrangements to support pupils at their school with medical conditions. This duty is detailed in Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014 and statutory guidance entitled Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions has been produced by the Department for Education to assist schools in understanding and complying with this legislation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions--3>

In line with this guidance, Southover CE School will:

- ensure children with medical conditions are properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education.

- make 'reasonable adjustments' to accommodate pupils with medical needs.

The governing body will:

- ensure that arrangements are in place in schools to support pupils at school with medical conditions.
- ensure that school leaders consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents/carers to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported.

The Inclusion Manager/SENCO will work closely with the parents/carers

If a child has missed the equivalent of 15 school days due to medical needs or chronic recurring illness determined by medical or CAMHS consultants, we will follow the procedures below:

- The Inclusion Manager/SENCO will meet with the parents/carers
- A bespoke/reduced timetable in school, alternative provision within school, weekly reviews, key adults, referrals to external providers - CAMHS, School Health Service, CITES, East Sussex County Council SEND Services
- A referral to ESCC Education SEND Services Front Door will be made to access Teaching and Learning Provision.
- Multiagency meetings with medical professionals, CAMHS, hospital teachers, TLP professionals
- A clear plan will set out the reintegration

All reintegration packages will be specific to the child's needs.

The statutory guidance is clear that there will be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but may receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the local authority.

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, East Sussex County Council is responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

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)
- Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school
- Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Inclusion Manager/SENCO. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

Accessibility plan

Supporting pupils with medical conditions

SEND Information Report