

Menston Primary School



Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy **STATUTORY**

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Headteacher
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Approved by the Governing Body October 2022

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 our local authority](#):

At the present time Bradford Children's Services have robust systems in place which identify children for whom they are directly responsible who are not in receipt of full time education. These include:

- Children in hospital schools

The responsibilities of the school

LA's should establish a central record of all children not accessing full time education in the usual way, including those who are accessing alternative provision full time away from mainstream school, regardless of where they are on roll. **They also recommend that all schools should inform the local authority of all pupils who have part time education arrangements or are accessing full time education away from mainstream school.**

This would include:

- Pupils on the roll of a school who attend off site provision full time
- Pupils on the roll of a school accessing part time alternative provision

Ofsted recommends that Schools, including Academies and Free Schools, should inform the LA of any part-time or alternative education arrangements regardless of school type.

Bradford Authority provide a notification form which can be found [here](#).

The Local Authority is responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for children who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. There will however, 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 Local Authority, 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, we would not expect the Local Authority to become involved in such arrangements unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable or, while otherwise suitable, was not full-time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health. This might be the case where, for example, the child can attend school but only intermittently.

If the school makes arrangements

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

- Class teachers will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements, which may include remote learning, sending work home or liaising with hospital schools
- Class teachers will communicate with families about arrangements as appropriate as needs arise
- Class teachers will work with families to integrate children back into school. This may be with support from their Phase Leader and/ or the SENDCo

If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Bradford Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

Where a child has medical needs that prevent them from attending Menston Primary School, they can be referred to the Medial Needs and Hospital Education Service. Information about this can be found [here](#).

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 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. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by Charlie Gilmour. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions