

**Catshill Middle School and Catshill First  
School & Nursery**

**Supporting Children With Health  
Needs Who Cannot Attend  
School Policy**

**Revised: September 2022**

**To be reviewed: September 2024**

**Signature ..... Chair of Committee**

**Date .....**

**1. Aims**

1.1. Catshill Middle School and Catshill First School and Nursery aim to support the Local Authority and ensure that all children who are unable to attend school due to

medical needs, and who would not receive suitable education without such provision, continue to have access to as much education as their medical condition allows, to enable them to reach their full potential.

1.2. Due to the nature of their health needs, some children may be admitted to hospital or placed in alternative forms of education provision. We recognise that, whenever possible, pupils should receive their education within their school and the aim of the provision will be to reintegrate pupils back into school as soon as they are well enough. We understand that we have a continuing role in a child's education whilst they are not attending the school and will work with the local authority, healthcare partners and families to ensure that all children with medical needs receive the right level of support to enable them to maintain links with their education.

1.3. 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.

## **2. Legislation and guidance**

2.1. This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996.

2.2. It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

[https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20416/send\\_local\\_offer](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20416/send_local_offer)

## **3. If the school makes arrangements**

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

4.2. The SENDCO, in conjunction with the Executive Headteacher, will be responsible for ensuring:

- a) working collaboratively with parents and other professionals to develop arrangements to meet the best interests of children with healthcare needs.
- b) developing and monitoring individual healthcare plans if requested by WCF. (Supported by the Senior Officer for Vulnerable Learners)
- c) ensuring the arrangements put in place to meet pupils' health needs are fully understood and acted upon by all those involved;
- d) supporting visit leaders in completing risk assessments for school visits, holidays, and other school activities outside of the normal timetable;
- e) liaising with the education providers and parents to determine pupils' programmes of study whilst they are absent from school.
- f) Supplying pupils' education providers with information about the child's capabilities, progress and outcomes.

## **5. If the local authority makes arrangements**

5.1. If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, Worcestershire Children's First will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

5.2. Schools must not remove a child with medical issues from its roll unless: a) they have been certified by a medical practitioner as unlikely to be in a fit state of health to attend school before ceasing to be of statutory education age; and b) neither the child nor parent has indicated the intention to continue to attend the school, after ceasing to be of statutory education age; OR  
c) the parent has written to the school to inform the school that other arrangements are in place for the child's education.

5.3. Where a child is taken off roll, the school must inform the LA of the child's destination. The LA will monitor all children who are Electively Home Educated.

5.4. In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school will: a) Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents to ensure the best outcomes for the pupil  
b) Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required c) 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 d) When reintegration is anticipated, work with the local authority to:  
i. 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  
ii. Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school  
iii. Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

## **6. Monitoring arrangements**

6.1. This policy will be reviewed biannually and approved by the Full Governing Board.

## **7. Links to other policies**

- Accessibility plans
- Attendance Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy