LANGDON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Children with Health Needs who Cannot Attend School Policy

Reviewed Autumn 2024

Agreed by the Governing Body 10.12.24

Due for review Autumn 2026

1. 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

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of:

- The Education Act 1996
- DfE guidance Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs, December 2023
- Guidance provided by Kent County Council

3. The responsibilities of the school

When we become aware that a pupil is seriously unwell and their attendance has ceased or reduced to 50% or less, we have a duty to provide work to the pupil at home for at least 15 schools days. During that time and if the illness is going to last longer, the school can apply to the Kent health needs education service, The Rosewood School, for an appropriately agreed package of support.

For those pupils too unwell to attend school, the key to successfully maintaining continuity of education is for the local authority and schools to have clear strategies and timely support available. It is recognised nationally that pupils who continue in education during their illness and recuperation are likely to recover more quickly with the minimum possible adverse effect on their educational and life outcomes.

The school has systems for remote learning in place that can be used if a child is well enough for learning but unable to attend school. This ranges from signposting parents and/or pupils to use online resources such as Oak Academy or BBC Bitesize, to more bespoke lessons which can be posted onto the home-school communication app Seesaw, through to face to face teaching or support using Zoom.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements:

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

Class teachers will be responsible for providing work and will liaise with parents about this through SeeSaw, our chosen communication app.

When a child is well enough to return to school, a meeting will be held with parents and a reintegration plan put in place.

3.2 If the Local Authority makes arrangements:

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Kent County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. This might include the following types of support:

- Home tuition
- Attendance at a Rosewood School base or satellite
- Individual tuition in school
- A combination/bespoke package as agreed by all parties

All of the support programmes will include how the school will maintain links with the pupil and their family to facilitate a successful reintegration.

While supported by the Rosewood School, pupils will be dual rolled so any absence will be borne by the Service and not the school's attendance figures.

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, the school will 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 remote education including online 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 to the physical environment; to educational provision in school or to examination arrangements

4. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities