Pupils with Health Needs Not Attending School Policy

WATERGATE SCHOOL

'I Can, You Can, Together We Will'

Written by: Natalie Carroll, February 2022

Reviewed: September 2026

Next Review: September 2028

Pupils with Health Needs Not Attending School Policy

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

If your child cannot attend because of illness or injury, your school and local council will provide support to make sure their education does not suffer. The roles of the School and Local Authority are listed below.

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996.

It also based on guidance provided by the DfE: https://www.gov.uk/illness-child-education

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Remote Learning Policy.

The responsibilities of the school

The school should:

- let the local council know if your child is likely to be away from school for more than 15 school days
- give the local council information about your child's needs, capabilities and the programme of work
- help them reintegrate at school when they return
- make sure they're kept informed about school events and clubs
- encourage them to stay in contact with other pupils, for example through visits or videos

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. What this provision may look like and the roles of responsibilities of those involved are detailed in Watergate's Remote Learning Policy.

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

The responsibilities of Lewisham Council

If your child's going to be away for a long time, the local council 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 local council must make sure your child continues to get a full time education - unless part time is better for their health needs.

The local council should also:

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

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually. 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

Remote Learning Policy

Approved by:	Linda Matthews Headteacher	**Date:** February 2022
Written by:	Natalie Carroll Deputy Headteacher	
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