



Marshland
HIGH SCHOOL

**Children with Health
Needs Who Cannot
Attend School Policy**

Reviewed by:	Governing Body
Approved:	December 2024
Review Date:	December 2025

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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.

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/send-local-offer/education-and-training-0-25/support-services/medical-needs-education-provision>

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

3. Responsibilities of the School

3.1 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.

When school is made aware of a student with medical needs a meeting will be arranged with a member of the Pastoral Team and/or the Senior Leadership Team and Trust Assistant SENDCo.

During the course of this meeting, expectations will be covered and a plan put in place on how school will support the student. The relevant interventions may, or may not be suggested:

- An Individual Healthcare Plan initiated
- SENDCo assessment if SEND identified
- SEN Support Guidance checked for potential strategies

- Mental Health and Behaviour in schools guidance checked (if appropriate)
- Contact the Inclusion Helpline for advice if the young person has SEND
- Provision of key-worker/access to a preferred staff member in school who can support the child
- Referral to the School Counsellor
- Attendance action plan
- Safe space strategy
- Time-out card considered
- Temporary reduced timetable in line with LA guidance
- Reduced exam offer
- Outreach support/use of Alternative Provision – use of off-site education.
- Provision of e-learning
- Medical Needs Referral

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, the student's local authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

In the first instance guidance will be sought from the medical needs team by calling the Just One number.

Where appropriate a Medical Needs Referral will be made to the Medical Needs Team within the students Local Authority.

Norfolk County Council commissions the Short Stay School for Norfolk (SSSfN) to support the home-learning of children that are unable to attend school because of health needs. This might consist of a blended package of:

- Small hub working where available. This may involve working at a location away from school, in small groups, for example, to begin to rebuild confidence to a full reintegration, and continued links with the home school. Small hub working may include opportunities to attend the home school on a part-time basis initially, or to attend social events and/or trips as appropriate, for example.
- E-learning (remote access to a trained teacher with work completed on a computer)
- Home learning support (with a visiting Home Learning Support Assistant or HLSA); work is set and marked by the home school. The ratios of the package are not pre-determined and should be agreed during the planning meeting coordinated by the SSSfN. The planning meeting will normally take place in the home environment and be attended by the parent/carer, SSSfN representative, home-school representative, the young person if s/he is able and other professionals as appropriate (eg CAMHS key worker, Medical Needs Coordinator etc).

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 the Deputy Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the local governing body.

5. Links to Other Policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions