

Children with health needs who cannot attend school at Signhills Academy

Signhills Academy



Approved by:	SLT	Date: July 2025
Presented to Trust Board		July 2025
Next review due by:	Summer 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.

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

3. The 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. Either the Head Teacher or another member of the Senior Leadership Team will be responsible for designing and monitoring these arrangements. A meeting will be held with parents/carers to discuss arrangements for working from home or hospital. A plan will be drawn up detailing agreed actions from the discussion; the plan will be signed by the school and parents/carers.

Arrangements are likely to include online learning, incorporating both Google Classroom and Google Meet, and set activities that will be sent home for completion. The work will be prepared by the child's class teacher. With the support of the Wellbeing Team, the pupil will be integrated back into school. This may require personalised arrangements, such as alternative provision for break & lunch times or a phased return on a temporarily reduced timetable.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

As soon as it is clear that a pupil will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative, the school may liaise with the local authority to receive specialist support.

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 senior leadership team. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.