



Dedworth Middle School

# Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School

May 2021



## Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School

### 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 Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (RBWM) which can be found [HERE](#) .

### 3. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

### 4. The responsibilities of the school

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on the governing bodies of all maintained schools, academies, alternative provision academy and pupil referral units to make arrangements to support pupils with medical conditions. Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 and section 3 of the Children, Schools and Families Act 2010, place local authorities under a duty to arrange full-time education for all children who, for reasons which relate to illness, exclusion or otherwise, would not receive suitable education unless arrangements are made for them.

#### 4.1 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.

- The Assistant Headteacher responsible for pastoral care will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements.
- Work will be put on-line for the child to access via class dojo.
- The Assistant Headteacher responsible for pastoral care will speak to parents/carers to ensure the child's educational needs are met whilst they are absent from school and monitor weekly.
- Once the pupil is well enough to return to school, arrangements will be discussed and any alternative provisions will be put in place and communicated before the pupil returns.



#### 4.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

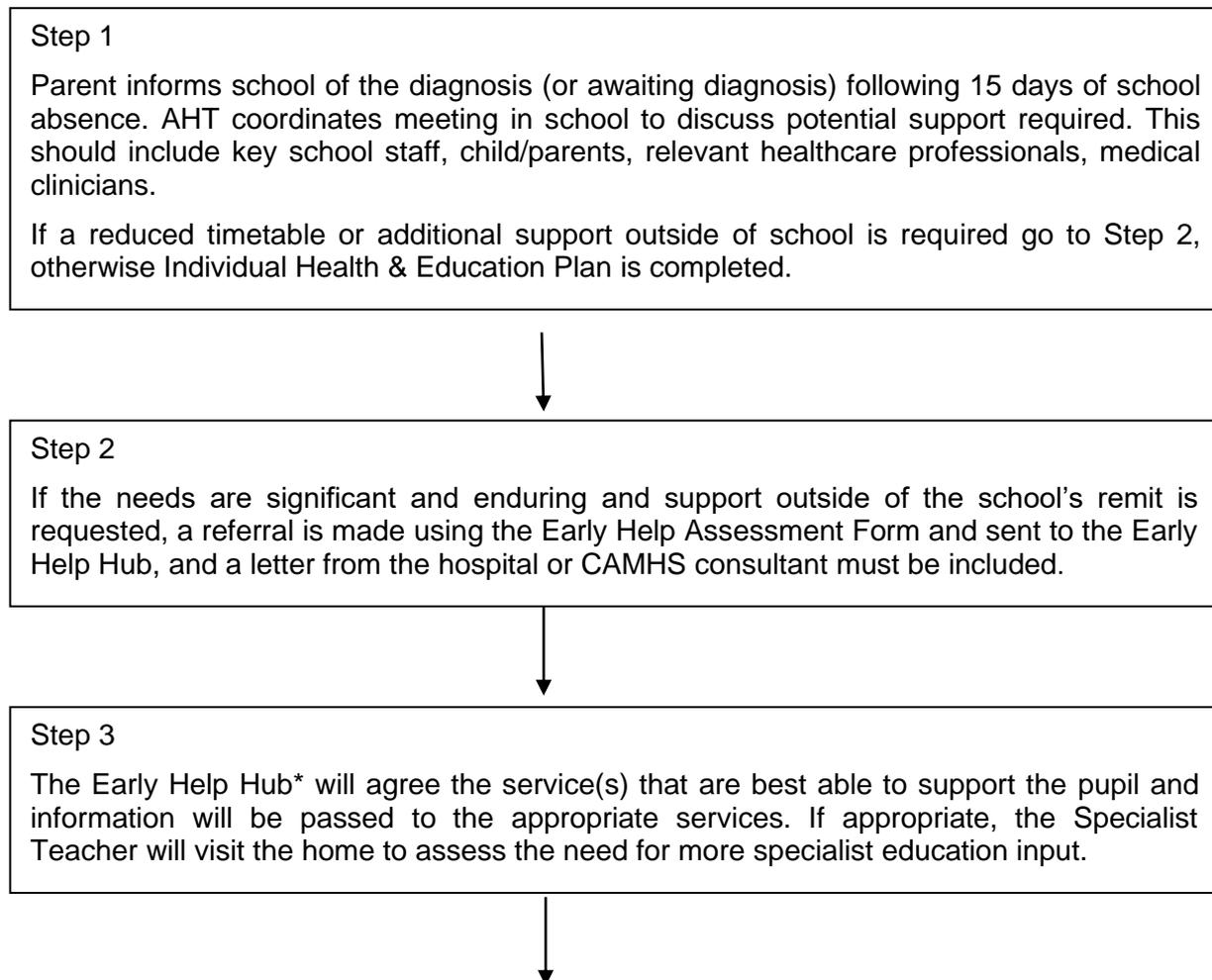
If the school can't make suitable arrangements, the LA will become responsible for arranging suitable education for the pupil as long as the following conditions are met:

1. Pupils with illness that results in 15 days or more of absence, whether consecutive or cumulative, but are still well enough to access education.
2. Medical evidence signed by a recognised medical consultant or CAMHS professional.

The LA should provide such education as soon as it is clear that the child will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative through illness. They should liaise with appropriate medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the child. They should ensure that the education children receive is of good quality, as defined in the statutory guidance Alternative Provision (2013), allows them to take appropriate qualifications, prevents them from slipping behind their peers in school and enables them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible. They should also address the needs of individual children, in arranging provision.

#### 5. Process

For children who reside in RBWM, the following process will be followed:





#### Step 4

The school will be informed of the outcomes of the Early Help Assessment and will be invited to arrange a meeting in order to agree an Early Help Plan and/or a joint Individual Health & Education Plan to support the pupil and ensure there is a coordinated multi agency approach, in liaison with the Specialist Teacher.



#### Step 5

Where the student presents with a complex pattern of need and the medical diagnosis, treatment and period of absence may be unclear, and where there is medical evidence provided by CAMHS or a hospital consultant, alternative provision may be considered at the Resource Panel.

Any education provision coordinated by the Specialist Teacher or RISE, can only be agreed when there is:

- A clear and agreed time limit for support.
- Continued and regular input from health care provision.

Funding is shared between the home school and the funds available for Alternative Education Provision and pupils will remain on roll of their school during any period of alternative provision being offered.

\*Requests will be discussed at the weekly Early Help Hub and the outcome will be shared with the family and school within a week.

RBWM recognises that, whenever possible, pupils will receive their education within their own school and the aim of the provision will be to reintegrate pupils back into their school at the earliest opportunity and as soon as they are well enough. Arrangements for reintegration will form an essential part of an Individual Placement Agreement and Early Help Plan (EHP).

For children who are residents of RBWM or in the care of RBWM and not in hospital, referrals must be made using the Early Help Assessment Form and sent to the Early Help Hub. If the needs are significant and enduring and support outside of the school's remit is requested, a letter from the hospital or CAMHS consultant MUST be included to enable a joint Individual Health & Education Plan to be put in place.

If the child does not reside in the Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, the process will be followed for the Local Authority in which they reside.

### 5.1 School involvement when the LA makes arrangements

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:
  - Provide a key worker who will coordinate the Early Help Plan and monitor the student's progress.
  - Convene any subsequent planning and review meetings.
  - Convene and plan any annual review meetings for students with statements of special educational needs/ EHCPS.
  - Request statutory assessment for students should that be an appropriate course of action.
  - Communicate Information to all agencies involved.
  - Ensure termly work plans and schemes of work are available in all subjects which the student would normally be studying.
  - Loan of any appropriate resources relating to the student's education.
  - Make arrangements for any national assessment procedures.
  - Provide information, advice and guidance as appropriate for the student.
  - Communicate any changes or alterations of the appropriate support plan to all agencies.
  - Enable the pupil to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, invitations to school events)
  - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made and implementation of the reintegration plan.

## 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Local Governing Body.

Signed:     L. Toulorge      
Chair of Governors

Date:   27/05/2021  

<b><i>Policy Approved by Governors</i></b>	27.05.21
<b><i>New Review Date</i></b>	27.05.22