



## THE HERMITAGE SCHOOLS

*Inspire, Learn, Achieve*

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

Person Responsible:	Inclusion Leader
Date Adopted:	Spring Term 2025
Date of last review:	Spring Term 2025
Date of next review:	Spring Term 2027

#### **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 2011.

#### **3. The responsibilities of the school**

Guidance from the Department for Education, directs all schools, including academies to carry out their duty to arrange suitable full-time education (or part time when appropriate for the child's needs), for children who are unable to attend a school because of their health. [DfE guidance](#).

##### 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.
- The Inclusion Leader and/or HSLW will contact the family and discuss with them the medical needs and how they may impact on the child's ability to learn from home. The home learning plan will be bespoke to that child and agreed by the school and their family, so the best support can be given.
- Paper based learning may be sent home for the child to complete or work may be set online using Seesaw.
- The class teacher will provide feedback on work to the child and family through Seesaw.

- All arrangements will be monitored regularly and changes made if required to suit need.
- The child will be reintegrated at the earliest opportunity as soon as they are well enough. A reintegration program will be put together following discussion with the pupil or young person, parent/carer, school, relevant health professional(s) and other involved agencies as appropriate. Arrangements for reintegration will take into account any ongoing health problems.

### 3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements:

Surrey County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would not receive suitable education without such provision. Statutory guidance for local authorities sets out that they should be ready to make arrangements under this duty when it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days or more because of health needs (whether consecutive or cumulative across the school year).

The law does not define full-time education, but pupils with health needs should have provision which is equivalent to the education they would receive in school.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers 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 internet links to lessons from their school).
- Create individually tailored reintegration plans for the child returning to school.
- Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made.

## **4. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed biennially. At every review, it will be approved by the Local Governing Committee.

## **5. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions