



Children with Health Needs who Cannot Attend School Policy

ALLEN EDWARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School

At Allen Edwards Primary School, we are committed to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and have achieved our Gold accreditation through the dedicated work that our community has committed to and will continue to do. We strive to ensure that we are fulfilling the rights of all children by providing them with an inclusive environment where they feel safe and confident enabling them to reach their full potential and prepare them for an ever-changing world.

The Articles that link to this policy are:

Article 2	Non-Discrimination	At Allen Edwards, children, staff, parents and governors guarantee that children are not discriminated against because of their abilities. All staff work closely together to ensure that strategies and interventions are in place to support children so that they can achieve their full potential and can access a curriculum that allows them to flourish.
Article 6	Life, Survival and Development	At Allen Edwards, children, staff, parents and governors ensure that we provide a tailored curriculum that meets the needs of all children so that all children develop to their full potential.
Article 23	Children with a Disability	At Allen Edwards, children, staff, parents and governors work tirelessly to increase our children's independence, promote skills that will allow all of our children to develop to their full potential and treat every child with the dignity that they deserve.
Article 28	Right to Education	Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.
Article 29	Goals of Education	At Allen Edwards, children, staff, parents and governors recognise that every child has talents and abilities that need to be encouraged and developed.

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, Lambeth, who state:

Your child must still get a full-time education, even if they're ill. They may be able to get help to go to school or be taught outside school.

Your child may still be able to go to school with some help. If your children can't go to school because of their medical needs:

- Their school will organise education for the first few weeks.
- They may be able to go to school at the hospital they are in.
- We may arrange education outside school if we think your child isn't getting an education or if your child is ill for more than 15 days.

This education may include:

- Home tuition.
- Access to a hospital school.
- A 'virtual' school.
- Any combination depending on the needs of your child.

For more information: <https://beta.lambeth.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-attendance-and-exclusions/education-support-pupils-who-are-too-ill-attend-policy>

3. The responsibilities of the school and Local Authority

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.

- These arrangements will be made and monitored by the Inclusion Team in collaboration with you as parents and carers.
- Communication of the learning and monitoring will be carried out in a meeting with school and home.
- When your child is ready to return to school, we will work with parents, carers and the local authority, where appropriate, to plan your child's return to school and make sure that they get the help they need to reintegrate into school.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Lambeth will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

The referral process is supported and assessed via Lambeth's Inclusion Team and initial enquiries should be made through:

Email: inclusion@lambeth.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 7926 6928

To assess the case and determine the support needed, the following information will need to be submitted:

- Medical professionals evidence of an attendance block detailing the reasons for non-attendance and absence periods.
- Attendance summary.
- Attendance and illness history detailing absences up to the point of referral.
- Common Assessment Framework (CAF) form providing a case overview.
- Details of school support provided to the pupils.
- Contact point for all involved parties so they can provide updates and be aware of the case status throughout the period of support.
- Potential risk issues including any to the tutor providing 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. Complaints

Parents with a complaint about their child's medical condition should discuss these directly with the Headteacher in the first instance. If the Headteacher cannot resolve the matter, they will direct parents to the school's complaints procedure.

5. Links To Other Policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Plan
- Complaints
- Equality Information and Objectives
- First Aid
- Health and Safety
- Safeguarding
- Special Educational Needs Information Report and Policy