



**Federation of  
Westminster Special Schools  
& Bi-Borough Inclusion Service**

## **CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY**

**Approved by:**

**S&A Committee**

**Date: 8 February 2021**

**Next review due by:**

**February 2022**

College Park and QEII schools aim to support the Local Authority (LA) and ensure that all children who are unable to attend school due to medical needs, and who would not receive suitable education without such provision, continue to have access to as much education as their medical condition allows, to enable them to reach their full potential.

Due to the nature of their health needs, some children may be admitted to hospital or placed in alternative forms of education provision. We recognise that, whenever possible, pupils should receive their education within their school and the aim of the provision will be to reintegrate pupils back into school as soon as they are well enough.

We understand that we have a continuing role in a pupil's education whilst they are not the school and will work with the LA, healthcare partners and families to ensure that all children with medical needs receive the right level of support to enable them to maintain links with their education.

#### Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education Act 1996
- Equality Act 2010
- Data Protection Act 2018
- DfE (2013) 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs'
- DfE (2015) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Home Learning policy
- Attendance Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Children Missing Education Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

#### **Responsibilities of the Schools:**

When a pupil at either College Park or QEII school is unable to attend school due to their health needs the AHT Pastoral will make contact with parents to establish if the child's health issues are temporary or a permanent change to their health needs.

Actions to be taken if there are temporary changes to health needs:

The AHT Pastoral or the most relevant SLT member will contact parents to establish:

1. How their current ill health is different from any pre-existing medical needs.

2. How long their current period of ill health may last (eg if known recovery time from medical intervention such as an operation)

If this is a temporary change to the child's health needs the school will use the existing Home Learning Policy and Plan to provide educational provision for the child until they are ready to return to school.

Actions to be taken if this is a permanent change to their health:

1. Review the child's Health Care Plan in liaison with parents and health care professionals to establish how the school can support the pupil to return to school.
2. If the change to the child's health needs cannot be supported by existing in school changes and adaptations to the health care plan and school provision the school will discuss with parents and the LA the need to review the child's EHCP and consider the appropriateness of the placement for the pupil and if the school can continue to meet the child's needs or not.
3. If the child remains at home during this review process the school will work with the parents and the LA to provide appropriate home learning opportunities in line with the schools existing Home Learning Policy and Plan.