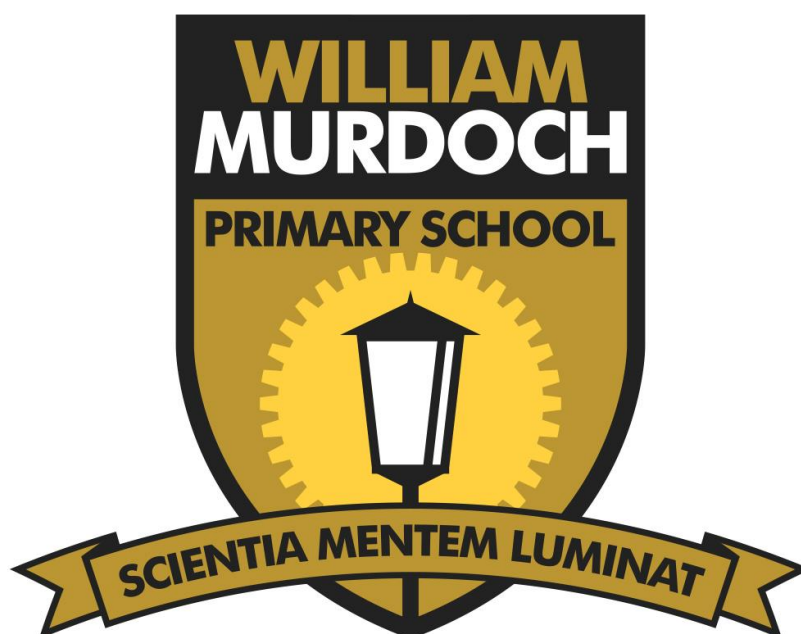


# William Murdoch Primary School

## Children with Health Needs who cannot attend School Policy



Approved by:	Mr Daniel Taylor	Date: 7 February 2024
Last reviewed on:		
Next review due by:	February 2025	

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### 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/carers understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority
- Pupils, staff and parents/carers understand how our School will support pupils with medical conditions; and
- Pupils with medical conditions are properly supported to allow them to access the same education as other pupils, including school trips and sporting activities.

The Governing Board will ensure this policy is implemented through the delegation of the below actions to the School staff, in accordance with this policy:

- Making sure sufficient staff are suitably trained; Making staff aware of a pupil's medical condition, where appropriate;
- Making sure there are cover arrangements to ensure someone is always available to support pupils with medical conditions;
- Providing supply teachers with appropriate information about the policy and relevant pupils; and
- Developing and monitoring individual healthcare plans (IHCPs)

### 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996 and DfE (2013) 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs' and DfE (2015) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions' as well as The Equality Act 2010 and the Data Protection Act 2018.

This policy also meets the requirements under Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014, which places a duty on Governing Boards to make arrangements for supporting pupils at their school with medical conditions.

It is also based on the Department for Education's statutory guidance: Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions.

This policy also complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

### **3. Responsibilities of the school**

The School aims to 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. The School recognises that, whenever possible, pupils should receive their education within our School and the aim of the provision will be to reintegrate pupils back into school as soon as they are well enough.

The School understands that it has a continuing role in a pupil's education whilst they are not attending the School and will work with the relevant professionals, 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.

The School aims to ensure that all pupils who can attend School with medical conditions, in terms of both physical and mental health, receive appropriate support allowing them to play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy, have full access to education (including school trips and physical education) and achieve their academic potential.

There are also social and emotional implications associated with medical conditions. Pupils with medical conditions can develop emotional disorders, such as self-consciousness, anxiety and depression, and be subject to bullying.

Long-term absences as a result of medical conditions can affect educational attainment, impact integration with peers, and affect wellbeing and emotional health.

The relevant local authority to the pupil's home address is responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for children who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. This means that where a child cannot attend school because of health problems, and would not otherwise receive a suitable full-time education, the relevant local authority is responsible for arranging provision and must have regard to the guidance DfE (2013) "Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs".

#### **3.1 If the school makes arrangements for a child who is unable to attend School or attends school with a medical condition**

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

#### **3.2 If the local authority makes the arrangements**

If the school cannot make suitable arrangements, Birmingham City Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

In cases where the local authority makes the 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, 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 governing board. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

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

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions