

# Children with Health Needs who cannot attend School Policy

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Lime Academy Hornbeam

Date: October 2023

Review date: October 2024

## Aims

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This policy aims to ensure that:

For registered learners who are unable to attend school due to health needs, appropriate education is arranged.

Parents, teachers, and learners are aware of the school's obligations when the local authority is in charge of providing the education.

Every learner has the right to an education, and Lime Academy Hornbeam is dedicated to working with the borough to ensure that every learner in the borough has exceptional levels of attendance. Underpinning our dedication to the idea that learners may benefit fully from the educational resources available to them when they attend school on a regular basis and promptly. We will use a variety of measures if a learner is unable to attend school in an effort to promote their return. Meetings, home visits, recommendations from other sources, and collaboration with other agencies are just a few examples. We understand that each learner is unique, and our support will be tailored to meet their needs.

## Legislation and guidance

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This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#).

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority. Behaviour, Attendance and Children Missing Education (BACME) Service is the local authority's go-to organisation for issues involving student attendance. It carries out the Authority's statutory obligations with regard to school attendance, including the creation and delivery of good practice recommendations to educational establishments in the borough; recommendations are available online:

[https://thehub-beta.walthamforest.gov.uk/attendance\\_children\\_missing\\_education](https://thehub-beta.walthamforest.gov.uk/attendance_children_missing_education)

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

## The responsibilities of the school

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### If the school makes arrangements

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

The Deputy Head/s of each site and the Parental Engagement and Family Support lead will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements. Learners not attending school will be an item at the weekly safeguarding meetings.

Where appropriate work can be sent to learners via their personal school email address, with the parent/carer copied in, or solely to the parent/carer. This will also include hard copies being delivered where necessary. We may work with hospital schools where appropriate.

The Deputy Head/s of each site and the Parental Engagement and Family Support lead will liaise with parents/carers about these arrangements, via phone, e-mail, virtual meetings and where possible face to face meetings.

When we can successfully reintegrate learners back into the classroom, we will set up suitable support mechanisms that are tailored to each learner's requirements, including a risk assessment, and a phased return timetable.

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

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Waltham Forest Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these learners.

The school will liaise with BACME to ensure that arrangements are suitable and meet the needs of the learner. These will be reviewed and monitored regularly.

We would regard this to be an inappropriate arrangement if the learner or parent/carer are not participating in the work assigned or communicating with the school. The learner might then be forwarded to the Fair Access Panel in this situation (FAP). FAP may take into account a temporary placement to evaluate and address needs that lead to school rejection or non-attendance. A re-integration strategy would then be negotiated.

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

Ensure the learner receives the greatest results, cooperatively work with the local government, providers, relevant agencies, and parent/carers.

When required, share information with the local government and pertinent health services.

Assist in making sure the learner's programme is as effective as possible and that the learner can successfully reintegrate back into school.

When reintegration is anticipated, work with the local authority to:

- Plan for consistent supply before, during, and after the learner's time spent being educated outside of the classroom so that, to the extent where possible, they can access the same curriculum and resources that they would have utilised in school.
- Enabling the learner to remain involved in school activities (e.g. through newsletters, emails, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school where appropriate).
- Make individualised phased return plans for every learner who is returning back to school.
- Examine whether any alterations that are reasonable are necessary.

### **Monitoring arrangements**

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This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.