Richard Lee Primary

Children With Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School

Local Level Policy

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Committee approved by	Richard Lee Local Governing Body
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Part of the Castle Phoenix Trust

Leading Learning and Excelling Together

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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 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* and *DfE Statutory Guidance (2013)*

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. The responsibilities of the school

At Richard Lee Primary School, we aim to ensure that all children, regardless of circumstance or setting receive a good education to enable them to shape their own futures. Where children are unable to attend school because of their health, the school will follow Department of Education Guidance and work with Coventry Local Authority who have the responsibility to arrange suitable full-time education (or part-time when appropriate for the child's needs) for children who are unable to attend a mainstream school because of their health. The person responsible at Richard Lee Primary School is Mrs Jenny Stafford (Head Teacher). The Local Authority 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. There will however, be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the Local Authority, for example, where the child can still attend school with some support. Where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child; or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in a hospital by an on-site hospital school, we would not expect the Local Authority to become involved in such arrangements unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable or, while otherwise suitable, was not full-

time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health. This might be the case where, for example, the child can attend school but only intermittently.

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. This will involve:

• Initial contact being made by the pastoral team to establish the child's individual medical need and potential barriers to attending school

• Arrangements being agreed and established e.g. sending work home (including the provision of virtual learning through school's identified learning programmes), education offsite (including through hospital schools) or additional adult support within school (in line with an individual health care plan as appropriate)

• On-going discussions between families, school and health providers to monitor agreed arrangements and identify when/ how pupils can be reintegrated back into school (where appropriate).

• Liaising with the SENDCo for pupils whom also have Special Educational Needs (SEN).

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

Where a pupil has medical needs that prevent them from attending Richard Lee Primary School for 15 days or more, school can refer them to The Hospital Education Service via the Local Authority Inclusion and Attendance Team.

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 the 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 school senior leadership team. 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

SEND Policy