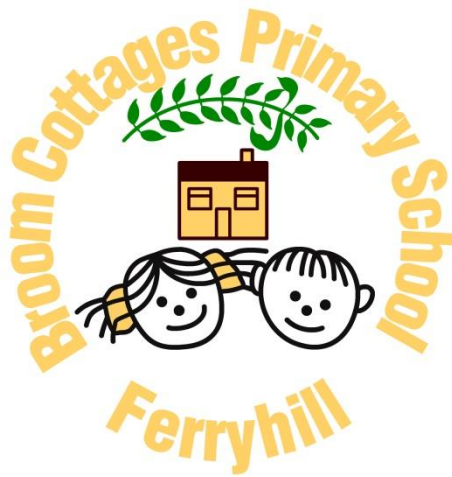


Broom Cottages Primary & Nursery School



Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Approval Date: March 2024
Review Date: March 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 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

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2983/Support-for-children-with-health-needs>

3. The responsibilities of the school

Pupils may experience difficulties in maintaining continuity of education because of health or medical needs at some time during their time at Broom Cottages Primary and Nursery School.

These issues may be short term such as a limb fracture or a long-term diagnosed medical condition, to which Broom Cottages Primary and Nursery School needs to respond in order to ensure that all pupils access their statutory entitlement to education.

Broom Cottages Primary and Nursery School is committed to promoting inclusion, equality of opportunity and continuity of education for pupils with health needs. This policy applies to pupils who are temporarily unable to attend school because of illness (including mental health problems) and injury.

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. We will do this by:

- liaising with parents/carers and considering appropriate action that could include sending work home to ensure the child can continue with their learning.
- Refer to the LA Health Needs team - where the child is expected to be off school for a longer period of time from 3 weeks onwards. The health needs team will work with school to allocate a member of their teaching staff to

attend the home to work with the child so they can be supported to continue with their learning. When ready to return to school the staff member will work with school to reintegrate the child back.

The Headteacher and/or SENCO will be responsible for monitoring and arranging an appropriate reintegration following any absence.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

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. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Curriculum Committee. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Equality Policy