



Telford Infant School

LOVING LEARNING

Every child to be an inquisitive, resilient and successful learner who is eager for their next challenge.

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Manager:	SENDCo
Date of latest update:	December 2025
Date of next review:	December 2026

*This Policy is available for Staff and Governors on One Drive.
It is also available for parents on request from the school office.*

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

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996.

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority via the Flexible Learning Team <https://www.warwickshire-flt.org.uk/index.shtml>

Further information for parents can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/illness-child-education>

The responsibilities of the school

Schools are required to make a sickness return to the local authority if a pupil is recorded in the attendance register as absent using code I (unable to attend because of sickness) and there are reasonable grounds to believe the pupil will have to miss 15 consecutive school days or more for illness or the pupil's total number of school days missed during the current school year because of illness (whether consecutive or cumulative) will reach or exceed 15 school days.

The school should:

- Notify the Local Authority as outlined above
- Where suitable make learning arrangements (see below)
- help pupils reintegrate at school when they return
- make sure pupils are kept informed about school events and clubs
- encourage pupils to stay in contact with other pupils, for example through visits or videos

If the school makes learning arrangements

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

This will be bespoke to the needs of the family and child. Examples of support include;

- Providing learning via Tapestry
- Providing physical reading books for collection from school or delivery to home by senior members of staff
- Teams meetings with the family and child
- Regular contact with the family via email and phone

- Phased return to school under the direction of the health care team
- Liaison with the Flexible Learning team if the absence meets their threshold of support

If the local authority makes learning arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Warwickshire Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for pupils.

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

Monitoring arrangements

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

Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions