

TWEEDDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL
POLICY FOR
ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR
CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL NEEDS

Review of the Policy

This policy provides guidance on teaching and learning at Tweeddale Primary School. It reflects the views of teaching staff and was agreed by the Local Governing Body on 13th March 2018.

The policy will be reviewed by the Head Teacher annually and by the governing body in **January 2021** or earlier if required. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the staff and will be monitored by the Head Teacher, Senior Management and individual curriculum coordinators.

Signed.....
Headteacher

Date.....

Signed.....
Chair of Governors

Date.....

TWEEDDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Access to Education for Children with Medical Needs

Rationale

Most pupils will at some time have a medical condition that may affect their participation in school activities. For many this will be short-term, perhaps finishing a course of medication.

Other pupils have medical conditions that, if not properly managed, could limit their access to education. Such pupils are regarded as having medical needs. Most children with medical needs are able to attend school regularly and, with some support, can take part in most normal school activities. However, school staff may need to take extra care in supervising some activities to make sure that these pupils and others are not put at risk.

Support for Pupils with Medical needs

Parents and carers have the prime responsibility for their child's health and should provide the school with information about their child's medical condition. They should, jointly with the Deputy Headteacher - Inclusion, reach agreement on the school's role in helping with their child's medical needs. Parents' cultural and religious views must be respected and the Head should seek the parents' permission before passing on information about the child's health to other school staff.

The School Health Service can provide advice on health issues to pupils, parents, teachers and support staff.

Absence from School

Where children with medical needs are at home for absences that are expected to be more than 5 and less than 15 days, and are not part of a pattern of recurring illness, the school will make arrangements with the parents or carers about liaison and the provision of homework as soon as the child is ready to cope.

The appropriate Phase Leader will act as link teacher for any pupil in their phase referred to the Hospital and Tuition Service. The link teacher will attend planning and review meetings and organise work programmes and materials for pupils as appropriate.

The school will notify the attached Attendance Officer if a pupil is, or is likely to be, away from school for more than 15 days. Pupils will be kept on roll, even if s/he is unable to attend school for lengthy periods of time.

Liaison

The school will liaise with the Hospital and Tuition Service to jointly draw up a personal education plan to cover the complete education for a pupil who is likely to be in hospital or at home for more than 15 working days and for pupils with chronic illnesses who regularly miss school. The plan will be agreed with the appropriate health service personnel. It will take effect as soon as soon as a pupil is admitted to hospital or is unable to attend school.

The school will provide the Hospital & Tuition Service with information about the curriculum for individual pupils, their progress and their ability, in order to facilitate continuity and enable suitable education to be provided.

Regular review meeting will be held with the Hospital & Tuition Service and the parents/carers which will involve the child, where appropriate. Reviews will be more frequent in cases where a child's illness, exhibits unpredictable and changing patterns. The review meetings will be particularly important for pupils who are recurrent admissions to hospital, pupils with degenerative medical conditions and pupils approaching National Curriculum tests.

Special Educational Needs

The school will consider if there is the need for assessment under the SEN Code of Practice for pupils with medical needs. The Special Educational Needs Coordinator will ensure that pupils with medical needs, who also have statements of SEN, have annual statement reviews.

The school will work with the Hospital & Tuition Service and health personnel to ensure that an individual reintegration plan is in place for all pupils before they return to school. The school will work with all the agencies involved to support a smooth transition and will ensure that peers are also involved in supporting pupils' reintegration.

Equal Opportunities

This policy should be implemented in line with the school's statement on Equal Opportunities

January 2018