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Kingsley Learning Foundation Trust

Children with Health Needs who Cannot Attend School Policy

Chairperson's signature: *D. Withers*

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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 guardians understand what the school is responsible for when education is being provided by the local authority.

2. Legislation and Guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996 and The Equality Act 2010.

3. The Responsibilities of the School

Local authorities, including Northamptonshire, have a duty set out in Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 and the DfE Statutory Guidance 'Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs' (DfE December 2023) to provide education for children who cannot attend school full time due to their medical needs.

Schools should be providing support for their pupils with medical needs under their statutory duties as defined in 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions' (DfE December 2015).

3.1 If the School Makes Arrangements

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

Members of the Senior Leadership Group will support the class teacher to deliver an effective and equitable education for pupils with health needs who cannot attend school. This will be regularly reviewed. Due to the varied needs and difficulties of the pupils at KLF Trust schools, arrangements will be made to represent the requirements of the individual. Some pupils might be able to use remote access to join their peers in the classroom; some pupils will have regular deliveries of resources including paper-based tasks, practical tasks, and specialised resources. Focused activities to support achievement of their EHCP Outcomes will be provided which will include Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language, where appropriate.

Regular reviews with guardians will be carried out with support from the Family Support Team, members of the Senior Leadership Group and the Class Teacher. These may take place face to face or virtually. Upon return to school, each pupil will be offered a bespoke transition period to reintegrate into the school environment. This will include phased return, if required, regular reviews and monitoring of emotional wellbeing.

3.2 If the Local Authority Make Arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, the local authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for pupils.

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

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and guardians 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 they 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 virtual links to lessons)
 - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each pupil returning to school
 - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made.

4. Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually. Following every review, it will be ratified by the governing board.