



Children with health needs who cannot attend school

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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://bso.bradford.gov.uk/content/medical-needs-and-hospital-education-service>

The following legal guidance sets out key points in this policy:

- Children and Families Act 2014 Section 100
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions December 2015
- Alternative Provision January 2013
- Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs January 2013

## 3. The responsibilities of the School

Here at Idle C.E Primary School, we are required by law to make arrangements for supporting pupils at our school with medical conditions.

- Pupils at our school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education.
- Our School Governors have allocated this responsibility to Mrs Kaur (Assistant Head – Inclusion) to ensure that arrangements are in place to support pupils at school with medical conditions.
- Mrs Kaur will consult health and social care professionals, pupils and parents/carers to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are effectively supported.
- All staff at Idle C E Primary will ensure pupils with medical conditions access and enjoy the same opportunities as their peers.
- Our Admissions policy is Inclusive of all children so we would ensure that no pupil would be denied admission unless it would be detrimental to theirs or others health to do so.
- We will make appropriate referrals to the Medical Needs and Hospital Education Service for pupils unable to attend school due to health reasons where it is clear that the pupil will be away from school for 15 school days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative.

We 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
- 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)
- host and chair regular review meetings (normally every 6 weeks); produce action plans and distribute notes of these meetings; produce appropriate medical evidence for continuing support.
- provide materials for an appropriate programme of work and work plans
- maintain a plan, such as a My Support Plan or Individual Health Care Plan, which records progress made towards a return to school

- ensure all staff are kept informed
- organise and pay for the cost of transport if required
- make arrangements for SATs
- provide a suitable working area within the School, where necessary

#### **4. The responsibilities of Parents/Carers**

**The parents'/carers' role is to:**

- produce medical evidence and commit to a plan of reintegration
- be willing to work together with all concerned
- provide early communication if a problem arises or help is needed
- attend necessary meetings
- reinforce with their child, the value of a return to school
- parents/carers supporting children to engage with education provided and reintegration to school.

#### **5. The responsibilities of the Local Authority**

Bradford Local Authority are responsible for arranging suitable education for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would not receive suitable education without such provision. This duty applies to all children and young people who live in Bradford regardless of the type or location of the school they would normally attend and whether or not they are on the roll of a school.

The law does not define full-time education but children with medical needs should have provision which is equivalent to the education they would receive in school. Bradford Local Authority may provide one-to-one, pairs or small group teaching in which case the hours of one to one or paired/small group provision could be fewer as the provision is more concentrated. The educational provision could be made up of two or more part time provisions. Where full-time education would not be in the best interests of a child because of reasons relating to their physical or mental health, Bradford Local Authority will endeavour to provide part-time education on a basis which is considered to be in the child's best interests. This decision will be made with reference to advice from relevant educational and medical professionals.

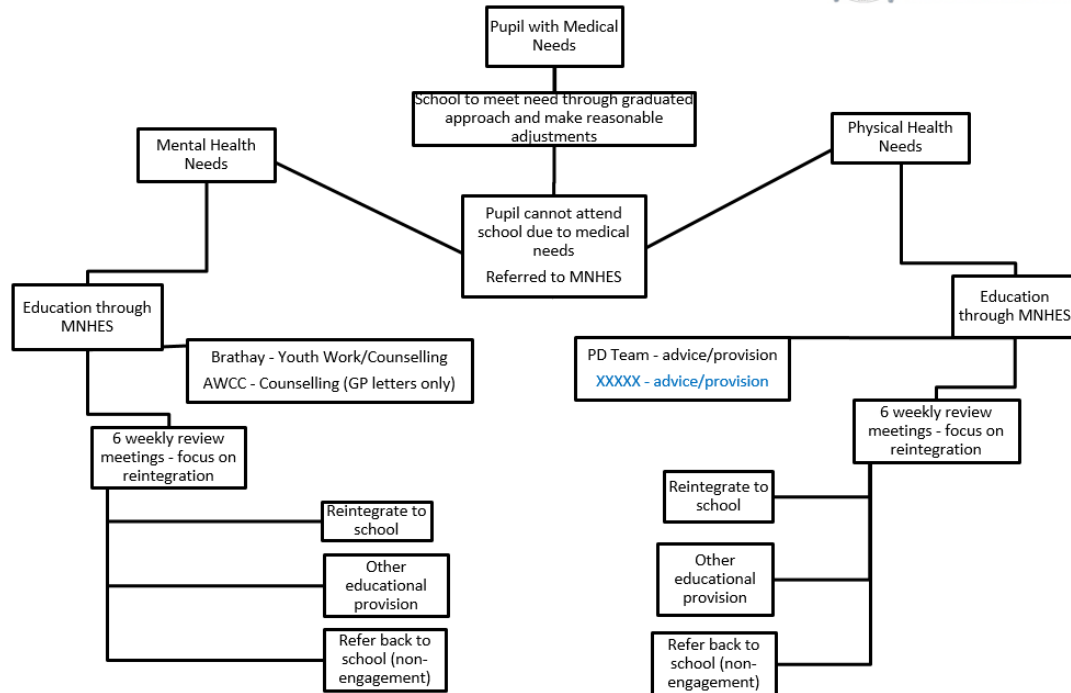
It is a statutory requirement that local authorities have a named person responsible for the education of children with additional health needs. In Bradford, the named person is:

Hannah Whittaker – Medical Needs and Hospital Education Service Manager

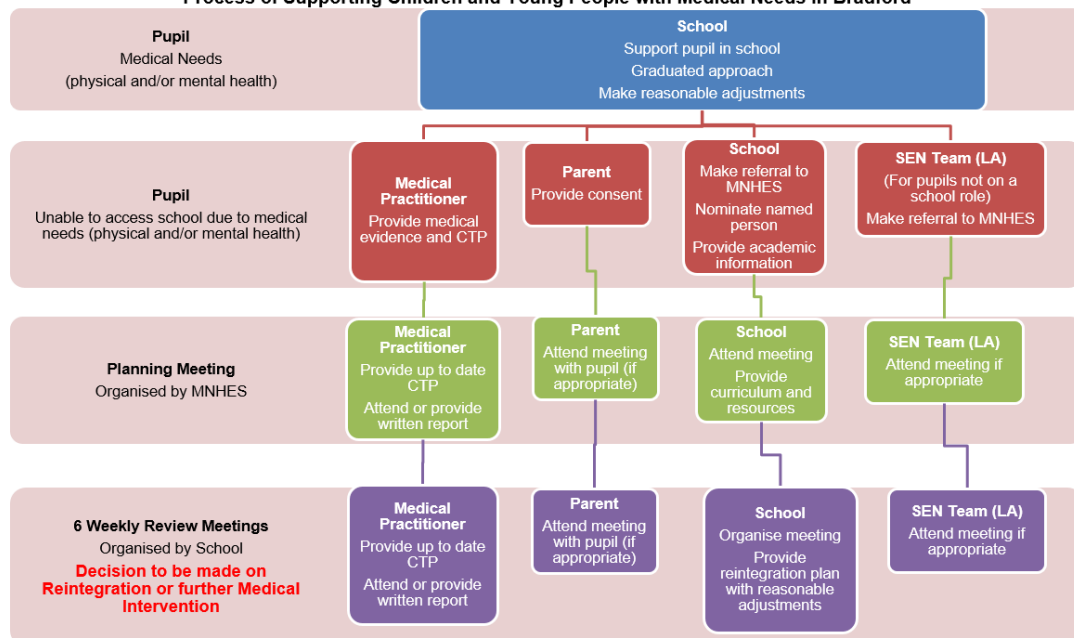
[hannah.whittaker@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:hannah.whittaker@bradford.gov.uk)

Lynn Donohue – Strategic Manager for Specialist Teaching and Support Services

[lynn.donohue@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:lynn.donohue@bradford.gov.uk)



#### Process of Supporting Children and Young People with Medical Needs in Bradford



## 6. Links to other policies

(The DfE advises that you review this policy annually, in its [list of statutory policies](#).)

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