PROCEDURE TITLE: Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

STATUS: Statutory

DATE OF REVIEW: September 2026

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1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- Students, staff and parents and carers 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 is also based on guidance provided by North Northamptonshire Council, the Local Authority.

3. The responsibilities of the School

3.1 School Based Arrangements

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

At The Latimer Arts School, an Assistant Principal is accountable for the education and wellbeing of any children with health needs who cannot attend school.

The School will make bespoke arrangements best suited to the circumstances of the student, these might include:

- Virtual Lessons/ live streaming of lessons
- Sending learning home (Remote Education)
- Sending staff to the home to provide 1:1 education
- Seeking support from Hospital and Outreach Education (HOE), including any use of Remote Education technology

All arrangements for the provision of education will be made in consultation with the child (if of a suitable age) the parents and carers and the medical team.

A meeting will be arranged with the student and their parents and carers either virtually or via a telephone call to put arrangements in place.

Students will be supported with a clear reintegration back to school, which could include:

- A nominated key person to oversee the process
- A phased return
- Alternative arrangements throughout the School day

3.2 Local Authority Based Arrangements

If the School cannot make suitable arrangements, North Northamptonshire Council, the Local Authority (LA) will become responsible for arranging suitable education for a student.

The suitability of arrangements made for a child with health needs who cannot attend school are agreed on a case by case basis. Decisions will be made in consultation with the LA, the child (if of a suitable age), the parents and carers and the medical team.

The School will consider a referral to the Local Authority when they are aware that the absence from school may last longer than 15 days. The School we will follow the referral procedures set down by and documented in the LA policy statement.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the School will:

- Work constructively with the LA, education providers, relevant agencies and parents and carers to ensure the best outcomes for the student
- Share information with the LA and relevant health services as required
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the student is as effective as possible and that the student can be reintegrated back into school successfully
- When reintegration is anticipated, work with the LA to:
    - Plan for consistent provision during and after the period of education outside the school, allowing the student to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in School as far as possible
    - Enable the student to stay in touch with School life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, invitations to School events or remote links to lessons)
    - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each student returning to School
    - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Plan
- Supporting Students with Medical Conditions