



Reading Girls' School
Succeeding Together

Name of Policy	Children with health needs who cannot attend school
Scope of Policy	All members of the school community
Approved by	Principal
Date of Approval	May 2026
Review period	One Year
Review Date	May 2027

GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER



**THAMES LEARNING
TRUST**

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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
- › This policy sets out our approach to children with health needs who cannot attend school across The Thames Learning Trust
- › Section 3 sets out the specific local arrangements for Reading Girls' School.

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#).

This policy reflects the requirements of the DfE [guidance](#) 'Arranging Education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs – Dec 2023

This policy reflects the requirements of the DfE [guidance](#) 'Arranging Alternative Provision' – May 2025

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. The responsibilities of the school

The school will work with Health professionals to support a joined-up approach for students to access education.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

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

- › The SENCO will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements
- › Where possible, students who are working off site will be encouraged to access our online, hybrid provision.
- › A planning meeting with school, parents and health care professionals will take place to discuss the required provision to best support the student to continue to access education
- › When the student has recovered, a phased reintegration will be discussed, alongside the consideration of whether or not an Individual Health Care Plan will be required.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Reading Borough Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school and trust 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

4. Monitoring arrangements

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

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Attendance