



**Pendle**  
Education Trust



## Supporting children who cannot attend school

<b>Author of Policy</b>	S Thompson, Principal
<b>Policy Approved by</b>	Local Academy Council
<b>Date</b>	March 2026
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### **Pendle Education Trust**

Nelson and Colne College, Scotland Road, Nelson, BB9 7YT

Tel 01282 440 249 Email [contact@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk](mailto:contact@pendleeducationtrust.co.uk)

Company Registration Number: 08263591

Place of Registration: England and Wales



## 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

## Legislation and guidance

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

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

## The responsibilities of the academy

### *If the academy makes arrangements*

Initially, the academy will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. These arrangements will be made by a senior leader alongside the child's teacher and in consultation with the child's parent or carer.

Arrangements will be time-limited in line with the child's needs and will include consideration of how the child may be effectively reintegrated into the academy.

### *If the local authority makes arrangements*

If our school cannot make suitable arrangements, or if it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days (consecutive or over the course of the year) or more because of their health needs, Lancashire County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

When the local authority arranges alternative education, the education should begin as soon as possible, and at the latest by the 6<sup>th</sup> day of the child's absence from school. Where full-time education is not in the child's best interest for reasons relating to their physical or mental health, the local authority must arrange part-time education on whatever basis it considers to be in the child's best interests.

In cases where the local authority makes the arrangements, our school will:

- Provide to the local authority, at agreed intervals, the full name and address of any pupils of compulsory school age who are not attending school regularly due to their health needs
- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers to ensure the best outcomes for the child



- Collaborate with the local authority to ensure continuity of provision and consistency of curriculum, including making information available about the curriculum
- Along with the local authority, regularly review the provision offered to ensure it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- When a child has complex or long-term health issues, work with the local authority, parents/carers and the relevant health services to decide how best to meet the child's needs (e.g. through individual support, arranging alternative provision or by them remaining at school, being supported at home and back into school after each absence)
- Where possible, allow the child to take examinations at the same time as their peers, and work with the local authority to support this
- Help make sure that the child can be reintegrated back into school successfully

### **Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Principal. At every review, it will be approved by the Local Academy Council.

