

# MOTTRAM ST. ANDREW PRIMARY ACADEMY



## POLICY STATEMENT FOR CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL

*All children, regardless of circumstance or setting, should expect to receive the same high standard of education.*

*Provision for children who are not attending school due to their health needs, and the framework surrounding it, should offer good quality education equivalent to that provided in mainstream schools, as far as the child's health needs allow.*

*Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs, DfE, December 2023*

Mottram St. Andrew Primary Academy aims to provide the best education for all pupils, including ensuring appropriate access to education in the event that health needs impede attendance at school.

Local authorities have statutory duties under section 19 of the Education Act 1996:

*Each local authority in England shall make arrangements for the provision of suitable education at school or otherwise than at school for those children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them.*

*This means that where a child cannot attend school because of a physical or mental health need, and cannot access suitable full-time education, the local authority is responsible for arranging suitable alternative provision.*

*Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs, DfE, December 2023*

Mottram St. Andrew Primary Academy aims to support the LA and ensure that all children who are unable to attend school due to medical needs, and who would not receive suitable education without such provision, continue to have access to as much education as their medical condition allows, to enable them to reach their full potential.

We understand that we have a continuing role in a pupil's education whilst they are not attending the school and will work with the LA, healthcare partners and families to ensure that all children with medical needs receive the right level of support to enable them to maintain links with their education. We recognise that, whenever possible, pupils should receive their education within their school and we will always reintegrate pupils back into school as soon as they are well enough.

In the event of a child being unable to attend school due to a health need, Mottram St. Andrew Primary Academy would refer to the following:

- Cheshire East Medical Needs Team Policy
- Cheshire East Medical Needs Service Referral Form

Referral to the Cheshire East Medical Needs Team involves an absence of at least 15 days and must be supported by one of the following health professionals:

- Consultant Paediatrician
- Consultant Child Psychiatrist
- Hospital Consultant
- CAMHS at Tier 3 or above

Pupils remain on the school roll throughout the process and any additional support will be regularly reviewed.

The aim of support is to ensure that pupils continue to receive good quality education which prevents them from falling behind their peers and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible.