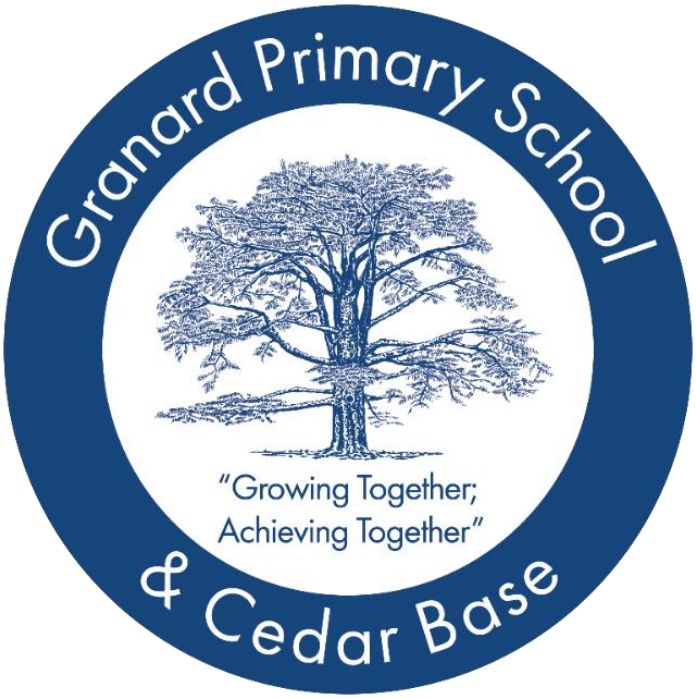
Granard Primary School



Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Adopted from The Key March 2026

Review Due: March 2027

Aims

This school aims to ensure that:

- suitable education is arranged for children on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- children, staff and parents understand that the school is responsible for when education is being provided by the Local Authority (LA)

Legislation and Guidance

This policy is based on the following legislation:

- Education Act 1996

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006

This policy also follows guidance provided by our local authority

- Alternative provision
- Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school

Expectations of the Local Authority

If a child is to be absent for more than 15 days due to their condition, and as validated by their medical consultant, then the LA is responsible for educational alternative provision. They may attend one of the following:

- A Hospital school - a special school within a hospital setting where education is provided to give continuity whilst the child is receiving treatment.
- Home Tuition Service - a service that acts as a communication channel between school and children on occasions where children are too ill to attend school and are receiving specialist medical treatment.
- Medical Pupil Referral Unit - these are LA establishments that provide education for children unable to attend their registered school due to their medical needs.

Governing Board Responsibilities

The Governing Board must:

- ensure that the school consults health and social care professionals and parents to ensure that the needs of children with medical conditions are properly understood and that arrangements are in place and are effectively implemented
- ensure compliance with the relevant statutory duties when supporting children with health needs

The Responsibilities of the School

At Granard Primary School, we aim to ensure that all children, who are unable to attend school due to medical needs for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative, and who would not receive suitable education without such provision, receive as good an education as their medical condition allows, to enable them to reach their full potential.

If a child is absent from school with a medical condition for a period of 2 weeks or more, or is planning on having an absence due to a medical procedure, they may be entitled to home tuition.

Where children are unable to attend school because of their health, the school will follow DfE Guidance and work with the LA (Hospital and Home Tuition Service Wandsworth) who have the responsibility to arrange suitable full-time education (or part-time when appropriate for the child's needs).

There will however, be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the LA, for example, where the child can still attend school with some support. Where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child; or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in a hospital by an on-site hospital school, we would not expect the LA to become involved in such arrangements unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable or, while otherwise suitable, was not full-time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health. This might be the case where, for example, the child can attend school but only intermittently. As stated in the guidance 'Supporting Medical Needs in School' the main responsibilities are with schools with the support of medical professionals as required.

We understand that we have a continuing role in a child's education whilst they are not at school and a named member of staff who is responsible for children with healthcare needs 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 will ensure that the education children receive is of good quality and allows them to take appropriate external tests, prevents them from slipping behind their peers in school and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible.

We will ensure that children can successfully remain in touch with their school through e.g. newsletters, emails or internet links to lessons.

When a child is considered well enough to return to school, the school will develop a tailored reintegration plan.

Monitoring

This Policy will be reviewed annually and approved by the Full Governing Board. Any changes to the policy will be clearly communicated to all members of staff involved in supporting children with additional health needs, and to parents and children themselves.

Links to other policies:

- Accessibility Plan
- Confidentiality Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

Reviewed: March 2026

Review Due: March 2027

Approved by: Governor: …….. ……..

Name: ……..…….. Date: ……

Headteacher: ……

Name: …….. Date: ……