

# Education for Children with Health Needs

Parent Information Sheet – September 2021



milton keynes council

Milton Keynes Local Authority has a statutory duty\* to support and offer educational opportunities to children who miss school for more than 15 working days in an academic year because they are in hospital or cannot attend school for health reasons.

To comply with this statutory duty, in partnership with the NHS, schools and families, a new system is being introduced, which aims to:

- Help minimise disruption to the education of your child, by providing appropriate educational opportunities when they are missing education due to health reasons
- Teach a broad and relevant curriculum that is suited to their needs, when they are well enough.

The Local Authority has a team of Specialist Teachers and Inclusion Practitioners who can support medical and educational professionals in delivering appropriate education to your child when they are able to take part. Referrals to this team are made by health or education professionals.

## How can parents help?

- If your child's medical consultant has informed you that your child is unlikely to be able to attend school for 15 days or longer, but that they are fit to engage in educational opportunities, please contact their school and arrange for work to be provided for that period.
- Your child's school can draw up an Individual Health Plan (IHP) to show how your child may continue to receive education. If your child is going to be away from school for 15 or more days, the school can invite a Local Authority Officer to the IHP meeting.
- When possible, talk to your child about the educational opportunities they can have during their time away from school so that they know what to expect.
- Talk to the hospital Play Leaders and school so that they are aware of your questions, concerns and expectations.

\*[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/269469/health\\_needs\\_guidance\\_-\\_revised\\_may\\_2013\\_final.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/269469/health_needs_guidance_-_revised_may_2013_final.pdf)

## How much education will my child receive?

This will depend on how well your child is and will be decided in partnership with school and medical professionals.

## What will 'education' involve?

Again, this depends on how well your child is and what their Medical Consultant feels is appropriate. The demands will be adjusted to your child's well-being and current ability to engage with the curriculum. It may be as gentle as just reading together or playing problem solving games.

## What if I don't feel education is important while my child is ill?

Your consent is needed to enable your child to be provided with educational opportunities whilst they are not in school. If you choose not to give your consent, your child will not be provided with education whilst they are off school due to illness.



Milton Keynes  
University Hospital  
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