

# **Salendine Nook High School (Academy)**

## **Children with health needs who cannot attend school (Statutory)**

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## 1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend Salendine Nook High School due to health needs
- Students, staff and parents understand what Salendine Nook High School is responsible for when education is being provided by the local authority

## 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996.

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority using the statutory guidance for Local Authorities 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs', January 2013. This comes under the category of 'education otherwise' when the child remains on the Salendine Nook High School roll and is educated temporarily in a hospital setting or through home tuition.

## 3. The responsibilities of the Salendine Nook High School

Salendine Nook High School works in partnership with students, parents/carers, medical services, other professionals and education providers to enable children and young people with medical needs who are unable to attend Salendine Nook High School to receive education in a hospital setting or at home. SNHS will be proactive in promoting the education entitlement of students on roll and in securing effective provision.

This applies to students unable to attend Salendine Nook High School for reasons of sickness, injury or mental health needs where a medical practitioner considers that a child should, or could not, attend Salendine Nook High School.

The principles underlying this policy are:

- SNHS recognises that children absent for medical reasons are entitled to continuity of education as far as their condition permits and acknowledges that it has a central role to play in securing and ensuring the continuity of education.
- The education provided shall be of high quality and as broad and balanced as possible such that reintegration is achievable and is as smooth as possible.

Ethos College is also commissioned to fulfil Kirklees Local Authority's statutory duty with regard to the provision of education for children and young people who, because of their medical condition, are hospitalised and / or unable to attend mainstream Salendine Nook High School.

The aim of this provision is, where possible, to support students towards reintegration into mainstream education. This is done at the earliest opportunity, working closely with Salendine Nook High School, the student, parents / carers and other agencies. This provision is funded by the LEA.

The Kirklees medical provision is offered in line with DfE guidance, which can be found on this document called "Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health reasons".

### 3.1 If the Salendine Nook High School makes arrangements

Initially, the Salendine Nook High School will attempt to make arrangements to deliver

suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend Salendine Nook High School.

- The relevant Head of Year working with the SLT Link & any other relevant staff will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements
- Arrangements will depend on the situation but could involve sending work home or setting tasks on SMHW or directing students to relevant websites / apps.
- Parents and the student will be involved in the arrangements made
- Students will be reintegrated back into Salendine Nook High School using appropriate adjustments where necessary
- Parents requesting absence for medical reasons will not be supported unless there is consultant level evidence.

### **3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements**

If the Salendine Nook High School can't make suitable arrangements, Kirklees will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

Kirklees would become responsible if:

- The student has an illness that will result in a 15+ day absence.
- The student has a potentially long-term illness or recurrent bouts of chronic illness.
- The student has complex mental health needs.

Salendine Nook High School would make a referral to Ethos College for students unable to attend Salendine Nook High School due to health reasons where it is clear that the student will be away from Salendine Nook High School for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative. In these circumstances' parents/carers must take medical evidence into the Salendine Nook High School which confirms why the student is unable to attend Salendine Nook High School and states how long this is likely to be the case. Statutory guidance states that evidence must be such as that provided by a consultant, however, in order to avoid delays the Student Referral Service will accept evidence from a GP if the student is to be referred to a specialist clinician\*. GP only referrals will initially be considered as an interim referral in order for provision/support to continue, usual timescale 6 weeks. For further information on the **referrals process**, please contact Ethos College on **01924 469170** or via email: **[ethosoffice@eat.uk.com](mailto:ethosoffice@eat.uk.com)**

\*Evidence from a consultant will still be required in this instance

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, Salendine Nook High School will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents to ensure the best outcomes for the student;
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required;
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the student is as effective as possible and that the child can be reintegrated back into Salendine Nook High 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 Salendine Nook High School, allowing the student to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in Salendine Nook High School as far as

possible;

- Enable the student to stay in touch with Salendine Nook High School life (e.g. through newsletters, e-mails, invitations to Salendine Nook High School events or internet links to lessons from their Salendine Nook High School classes
- Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to Salendine Nook High School;
- Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made.

### **3.3 Reintegration into Salendine Nook High School**

Salendine Nook High School will:

- work with providers of education, doctors, educational psychologists, indeed all relevant professionals, the parents/carers and the student themselves to plan a gradual and sensitively orchestrated reintegration into Salendine Nook High School.
- Ensure that the students and staff in the Salendine Nook High School who have maintained contact with the student, who has been absent, will play a significant role helping the student to settle back into Salendine Nook High School.
- Accept part-time attendance where students are medically unable to cope with a full day, until the student is able to attend for full Salendine Nook High School days.
- Make arrangements for students with mobility problems to return to Salendine Nook High School, taking account of health and safety issues, organising risk assessment and seeking advice on lifting and handling procedures where necessary. The impact on staff will be considered and additional support may be required from the SEN devolved budget or via review and referral to the SEN panel.
- Maintain contact with both parents/carers and the student. This will include invitations to events and productions at the Salendine Nook High School as well as regular communication via letters, newsletters or e-mail. Both SNHS and the education providers will support and advise students and their parents/carers, as appropriate, during the absence.

## **4. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Assistant Principal (Personal Development). At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

## **5. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting students with medical conditions
- Safeguarding
- Special Educational Needs
- Mental health