

Aspire - Collaborate - Explore

'Together we learn – United we achieve'



Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy 2026-27

TOWNVILLE ACADEMY

Head teacher: Caroline Burden

<i>Approved by:</i>	<i>Local Governing Body</i>	<i>Date: September 26</i>
<i>Last reviewed on:</i>	<i>September 2026</i>	
<i>Next review due by:</i>	<i>September 2027</i>	

Our vision

At Townville Academy we aspire to offer the best possible early education for our children in a happy, safe, inclusive environment. We build firm foundations through a welcoming, holistic community approach placing the individual needs of the child at the heart. With high expectations and aspirations for every child we seek to ensure all children develop the skills and attributes they need to

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 and the Trust are responsible for, and what the Local Authority (LA) is responsible for, when this education is provided.*

Legislation and Guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996 and the Children and Families Act 2014 (Section 100), which places a statutory duty on schools to support pupils with medical conditions.

It is also informed by the statutory guidance Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions (DfE, 2015):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions--3>

This policy complies with:

- Our school's Funding Agreement and the Articles of Association of the Accomplish Multi-Academy Trust.*
- The statutory requirements that apply to all schools, whether academies, free schools, or LA-maintained.*

Responsibilities of the School (within the MAT)

As part of Accomplish Multi-Academy Trust, our school is required to make suitable arrangements for supporting pupils with health needs.

- The school will make every effort to provide education directly when pupils are unable to attend due to health needs. For example, learning may be provided through home learning packs, online platforms such as Oak National Academy, or digital communication with class teachers.*
- In the first instance, office staff will contact parents in line with our Attendance Policy and follow the first-day calling procedure.*
- The SENDCo will oversee and monitor arrangements, ensuring that suitable work is provided and reviewed.*

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- *Class teachers will provide appropriate work and feedback in a timely manner.*
- *On a pupil's return, the school will work collaboratively with parents, professionals and the child to reintegrate them effectively, making reasonable adjustments as necessary.*

Responsibilities of the Local Authority (Wakefield Council)

If the school, despite reasonable adjustments, cannot make suitable arrangements, the duty to provide alternative education falls to the Local Authority.

Wakefield Council may:

- *Arrange one-to-one tuition (home or hospital-based).*
- *Provide education via Pinderfields Hospital Pupil Referral Unit (PHPRU).*
- *Offer part-time provision where full-time is not in the child's best interests, based on medical advice.*

Named Person (Wakefield LA):

Sue Sharp, Service Manager, WISENDSS, in partnership with PHPRU.

Referrals: via the Headteacher, PHPRU, Imperial Avenue, Wrenthorpe, Wakefield WF2 0LW.

Tel: 01924 298351 | Email: hm@pinderfieldshospitalpru.co.uk | Website: <http://www.pinderfieldspru.co.uk>

Referrals and Criteria

- *Referrals can be made for pupils of compulsory school age (5–16) unable to attend school for 15 school days or more (consecutive or cumulative).*
- *Medical evidence (from consultant, CAMHS, or GP as interim) must state that the pupil is too unwell to attend school.*
- *Provision will be short-term and designed to support reintegration as quickly as possible.*
- *A planning meeting will set out the programme of support, reviewed half-termly*

Roles and Responsibilities

PHPRU will:

- *Complete initial visits and risk assessments.*
- *Arrange tuition (home, onsite, or alternative venue).*
- *Liaise with host school regarding academic data and support needs.*
- *Provide flexible, sensitive teaching programmes and regular progress reports.*
- *Support reintegration with the school.*

The School (within Accomplish MAT) will:

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- *Work constructively with the LA, PHPRU, parents, and agencies.*
- *Share information with relevant services.*
- *Support consistent provision during and after the child's absence.*
- *Keep the pupil connected with school life (e.g. newsletters, online links).*
- *Plan tailored reintegration programmes with adjustments as necessary.*

Parents will:

- *Ensure their child engages in learning (home or alternative provision).*
- *Provide a safe and suitable environment for tuition.*
- *Attend meetings, share medical updates, and support reintegration.*

Pupils will:

- *Engage with tuition and learning activities.*
- *Share their views.*
- *Work towards reintegration.*

Review and Withdrawal of Provision

Provision may be reviewed, amended, or withdrawn if:

- *Medical evidence no longer supports absence.*
- *Medical advice indicates education would not be in the child's best interests.*
- *Attendance at tuition is irregular without medical reason.*
- *Home tuition agreement conditions are not met.*
- *Health and safety concerns arise at the tuition venue.*

Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the SENDCo in consultation with the Headteacher. It will be ratified by the Local Governing Committee and noted by the Trust Board.

Links to Other Policies

- *Accessibility Plan*
- *Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions*
- *SEND Inclusion Policy*
- *SEND Information Report*