

CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY

Policy type	Statutory
Review period	Biennial
Last reviewed on	Autumn 2024
Next review due	Autumn 2026
Approval level	Executive Board

Approved by (Name, date, signature)

Executive Board, 27th November 2024
Executive Board Chair, David Kreyling
Published on



Omnia Foundation Website

POLICY FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL

Mission

We believe in investing in people. As professionals in the teaching and training professions, we strive to provide a better future for the children, young people and home settings we work with. Success for us means unleashing the potential of each individual so they can grow, develop and reach the potential of which they are capable. Our values are grounded in our determination to be the change we want to see in the world, through passion, commitment and integrity. We strive to plant a seed of kindness and compassion in a generation that will produce resilience and hope and enable them to aspire and achieve productive and fulfilled lives. Our success is measured in the lives we changed.

At the Omnia Foundation, we create a secure and safe environment that encourages communication, self-belief, mutual respect and success. We provide a rich and balanced curriculum that develops every child, allowing them to achieve their true potential.

1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend the foundation due to health needs
- Students, staff and home settings understand what the foundation is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996.

It also based on guidance provided by local authorities.

3. The responsibilities of the Omnia Foundation

The majority of children's educational needs are best met in an educational setting, but for some, at specific times, an education either in an alternative venue or at home may be more appropriate.

The Omnia Foundation will liaise with the agencies from the relevant local authorities where students unable to attend school due to health reasons where it is clear that the child will be away from site for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative.

Since all our students are subject to an Education, Health and Care Plan, an infrastructure already exists through which such challenges can be managed.

Medical evidence should confirm the reasons why the student cannot attend and how long they are likely to be absent. In addition, the medical evidence will support how much outreach work the student should be well enough to receive. Where students are under a consultant, there is an expectation that the medical evidence is supplied by the consultant, rather than the local GP.

For students diagnosed with Chronic Fatigue/ME the Consultant's letter should specify the programme the student should be following. This may include, for example, periods of on-site attendance, periods of rest and/or periods of outreach delivered in the home setting.

For students with mental health issues there is an expectation that the evidence is provided by the Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health service (EWMHS). For students who are receiving support through other Counselling Services, evidence should be supplied from the relevant organisation.

The Omnia Foundation will:

- Host and chair regular review meetings (normally every 6 weeks); produce action plans and distribute notes of these meetings.
- provide materials for an appropriate programme of work and work plans.
- Maintain a plan which records progress made towards a return to education on-site.
- Ensure all staff are kept informed.
- Ensure appropriate arrangements, including entry and invigilation, are made for all examinations.
- Provide the student's academic attainment levels including any relevant examination requirements.
- Assess coursework.
- Facilitate career interviews.
- Arrange work experience placements.
- Provide a named teacher with whom each party can liaise.
- Provide a suitable working area on-site, where necessary.
- Be active in the monitoring of progress and the reintegration into the foundation, using key staff to facilitate the reintegration.
- Ensure that students who are unable to attend, are kept informed about events happening within the foundation, and can participate in as much as they are able
- Encourage and facilitate liaison with peers, for example, through visits and videos.

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head of Foundation . At every review, it will be approved by the Executive Board.
