

POLICY ON ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS WITH MEDICAL NEEDS

General

1. Larkmead school recognises that it has a responsibility to ensure that students with medical needs have access to high quality educational support to enable them to continue their education effectively, and that good communication and co-operation between the school, home and other professionals are essential. The appropriate Key Stage Co-ordinator, in co-operation with relevant Directors of Learning (DoLs), the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and Educational Social Worker (ESW), is responsible for the effective implementation of this policy.
2. This policy endorses the Oxfordshire County Council Policy and DfES Statutory guidance 'Access to Education for Children and Young People with Medical Needs' (2002).

Aims

3. The key aims of this policy are to:
 - a. Provide continued education as normally as the condition allows.
 - b. Reduce the risk of lowering self-confidence and educational achievement.
 - c. Promote equal access to education for all children and young people.
 - d. Establish effective liaison.
 - e. Ensure that prompt action takes place

Responsibilities

4. The appropriate Key Stage Co-ordinator together with appropriate DoLs, will:
 - a. Monitor the attendance of all students with medical conditions (code M – authorised absence for medical reasons and code B when the student is receiving education other than at school).b.
 - b. Liaise with parent/carer and or the Inclusion Officer (IO)/ESW regarding **all** students expected to be absent from school for 15 days or more (including time in hospital).
 - c. Liaise with the ESW, Educational Psychologist (EP), IO, medical professionals and Oxfordshire Hospital School staff, as appropriate, to plan provision.
 - d. Co-ordinate education provision from when it becomes apparent that absence is due to recurring illnesses and chronic conditions.

- e. Ensure that students educated at home receive a minimum of five hours education per week, as long as the students feel able to cope (subject to the appropriate medical evidence being in place).
- f. Co-ordinate the provision of work that will support a broad and balanced curriculum where appropriate.
- g. Ensure that there are mechanisms in place to communicate information about activities and social events to enable students to keep in touch with peers e.g. via the home tutor if appropriate.
- h. Monitor provision, progress and reintegration arrangements.
- i. Ensure that the views of students and parents/carers are taken into account.
- j. Ensure that appropriate Code of Practice (SEN and Disability) procedures are in place, as required.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Governing Body Student Welfare Committee in consultation with DoLs, SENCO, ESW, EP the Attendance Office.

March 2013