



Dame Alice Owen's School  
The Dame Alice Owen Foundation - 1613

## **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE UNABLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL FOR MEDICAL REASONS POLICY**

Agreed by the Governing Body Curriculum Committee  
To be reviewed  
(*reviewed every 2 years*)

May 2019  
Summer 2021

To be monitored by the Governing Body Curriculum Committee

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### **Rationale**

Children and young people with temporary or recurring medical or mental health needs are valued as full and participating members of Dame Alice Owen's School. The school will do its utmost to ensure that such children are supported through their period of absence from school and sensitively reintegrated once they are well enough to attend.

Children with medical needs will not be disadvantaged regarding admissions to this school. Every application will be considered according to the published admissions criteria as required by law.

The aim is to minimise the interruption and disruption to the student's schooling by continuing education as normally as the child's condition permits, and working towards their reintegration into school as soon as possible.

The designated teacher who is responsible for ensuring that the needs of all students with medical needs are met is Deputy Head, Pastoral, Dr D. Mitchell.

The school will at all times aim to work in partnership with parents/ carers and relevant outside agencies to ensure the best possible outcomes and a return to school as soon as possible. For reintegration we will look at the curriculum and modify it in such a way that enables the student a successful reintegration. The school will implement procedures for ensuring that students who are unable to attend school for medical reasons have access to public examinations, possibly as external candidates, and applications for special arrangements will be made to the awarding bodies where appropriate.

We will refer pregnant girls at any age to ESTMA in order to make sure appropriate support (e.g. teaching, childcare) is available if needed. The student will remain in school for at least 24 weeks and longer if she is fit and able to do so. If it is agreed that an alternative short term placement out of school is required, this will be supported in the same way as a child with medical needs.

For Post 16 students, we will ensure that all young people who are absent from school for medical reasons will be referred to the Connexions Hertfordshire service at the earliest opportunity. They will have access to advice and guidance from the Connexions Hertfordshire service to help them prepare for their next steps in education and work to overcome any barriers to participation. One of our aims will be to give intensive support to students facing complex problems.

Where a young person has had their education significantly disrupted for medical reasons, we will work with ESTMA to ensure that they are able to complete their statutory education.