Bradford Girls' Grammar School

Education of children with Medical Needs who are unable to attend school policy 2026-27

Aspire – Succeed – Lead

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Status: Non-statutory
Owner: Headteacher

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1. Aims of Policy

This policy will aim for a number of outcomes.

- It will explain what provision is available for students unable to attend school for medical reasons.
- It will explain how we go about identifying students who are unable to attend school due to medical needs.
- It will explain how we intend to overcome such barriers, and seek to provide an enabling and learning environment, even where students are unable to attend school due to medical needs.
- It will show how we intend to be a fully inclusive school where students' needs are treated individually.

2. Policy Statement

Bradford Girls' Grammar 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 school, to receive education in a hospital setting or at home. We will aim to be proactive in promoting the education entitlement of students on roll and in securing effective and appropriate provision.

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

The principles underlying this policy are:

- Bradford Girls' Grammar School recognises that children absent for medical reasons are entitled to continuity of education as far as their condition permits and acknowledges that we have 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 as smoothly as possible.

3. The School's Responsibility

Where a student is absent from school for medical reasons, and where a qualified medical practitioner considers that a child should or could not attend school, Bradford Girls' Grammar School will provide education tasks and resources for use at home when the child is well enough to engage in education where the absence is for a period of less than 15 days.

When an absence is known to be more than 15 days or exceeds 15 days, then a referral will be made for home tuition through the Local Authority provision (MHNES). Medical evidence will be required prior to a referral being made.

Where a child is admitted to hospital, Bradford Girls' Grammar School will liaise with the teaching service to inform them of the curriculum areas the student should be covering during their absence. Where possible, school will plan the educational programme of the student in liaison with the provider, taking account of the medical condition, treatment, effects of medication, therapeutic programmes provided and the duration of absence from school.

Where practical, Bradford Girls' Grammar School will host review meetings as the student remains on the school roll and is therefore the schools' responsibility.

Where students have recurrent admissions or have a planned admission to hospital, the school will aim to provide a pack of work for the student to take into hospital with them.

Bradford Girls' Grammar School will foster communication and sharing of best practice between teaching staff and anyone providing the education otherwise.

4. Reintegration back to School

Bradford Girls' Grammar School will work with providers of education, doctors, educational psychologists and other relevant professionals, the parents/carers and the student themselves to plan a gradual and sensitively orchestrated reintegration back to school.

The school will ensure, where possible, that the staff who have maintained contact with the student who has been absent will play a significant role in helping the student settle back into school.

The school will accept part time attendance where students are medically unable to cope with a full day, until the student is able to attend for full school days; this will be planned prior to the reintegration process beginning and be reviewed as appropriate.

The school will make arrangements for students with mobility problems to return to school, taking account of health and safety issues, organising risk assessments and seeking advice on lifting and handling procedures where necessary. The impact on staff will be considered, and additional support may be required through referral.

Throughout the absence, Bradford Girls' Grammar School will maintain contact with both parents/carers and the student as appropriate and both the school and any education providers will support and advise students and their parents/carers, as appropriate, during the absence.

Bradford Girls' Grammar School should expect to receive regular reports and assessment of student progress from any service provider during the students' absence and a folder of work on return to school.

The Headteacher, usually through the liaison member of staff, will ensure that all relevant staff are aware of the students' absence and of their responsibility towards maintaining continuity of education for the student.

The Headteacher, usually through the appropriate Senior Leader, will report to the Governing Body on the educational provision which has been made for students absent due to medical reasons.