



Creative Inclusion

LEARNING STUDIO

Creative Inclusion: An Independent Alternative
Specialist Provision

Children with Health Needs who cannot attend School

Effective Date: July 2025

Approved by: Advisory Board September 2025

Review Date: July 2026

The Purpose and Scope of this Policy

This policy aims to ensure that:

- suitable education is arranged for learners who cannot attend school due to health needs
- learners, staff and parents/carers understand what Creative Inclusion is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority.

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#). It is also based on guidance provided by the [local authority](#). This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Data Protection Act 2018
- DfE (2013) 'Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs'
- DfE (2015) 'Supporting learners at school with medical conditions'.

It is also based on guidance provided by our local authority. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

Responsibilities of Creative Inclusion

It is the duty of Creative Inclusion to provide learning resources that enable the learner to access a broad and balanced curriculum and ensure continuity in their education.

If Creative Inclusion makes arrangements

Initially, Creative Inclusion will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children/young people with health needs who cannot attend school for a period of time agreed with home school and parents/carers. For a short term, interim measure we would be able provide home learning.

If the child/young person's need is significant and long-term we will work with the home school to refer the learner back to them for that provision to put into place in line with their Children with Health Needs school Policy.

This may include further applications to VPP and Home and Hospital referrals and we will support the home school where necessary within that process.

The Head of Provision is responsible for ensuring that suitable education arrangements are in place for students with short term medical issues. The Key Worker for the learner will be responsible for the co-ordination between Creative Inclusion and the parents/carers of the learner for the dissemination of allocated work for the duration of the absence.

Work will be collated by the learner's Key Worker and delivered to the place of residence to enable the learner to access the work, and we can also provide a digital device where one is not available. Creative Inclusion is not responsible for the supply or financial costs of internet provision.

Learners returning to Creative Inclusion from a short-term interim absence will attend a meeting with their Key Worker prior to their return to determine the best strategy to reintegrate back into Creative Inclusion, whilst ensuring that any medical needs of the learner are met.

Where necessary a risk assessment and a Healthcare/Care Plan will be undertaken and put in place.

If the local authority makes arrangements

If Creative Inclusion cannot make suitable arrangements, Sunderland local authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

The LA should:

- Provide such education as soon as it is clear that a learner will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative. They should liaise with the appropriate medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the learner. Ensure the education learners receive is of good quality, allows them to take appropriate qualifications, prevents them from falling behind their peers in school, and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible.
- Address the needs of individual learners in arranging provision.
- Have a named officer responsible for the education of children with additional health needs and ensure parents/carers know who this is
- Have a written, publicly accessible policy statement on their arrangements to comply with their legal duty towards children with additional health needs.
- Review the provision offered regularly to ensure that it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education.
- Give clear policies on the provision of education for children and young people under and over compulsory school age.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, Creative Inclusion will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, home schools, relevant agencies and parents/carers to ensure the best outcomes for the learner.
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required.
- Co-ordinate with the home school to make sure that the provision offered to the learner is as effective as possible and that the child/young person can be reintegrated back into school successfully.

- Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child/young person returning to school.
- Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made.

Monitoring arrangements

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