

FOUNDED 1789



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

Policy for Children with health needs who cannot attend school

Date: July 2024

Reviewed and Ratified by Governing body on 3rd July 2024

Review Date: July 2025

Signed : _____ Rev'd Melissa Carter, Chair of Governors

Signed : _____ Helen Comfort, Executive Headteacher

Equality

We recognise our duty and responsibility to establish equality for all pupils, staff, other members of the school community and service users regardless of their ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or beliefs as defined within existing equalities legislation (please see Equality Policy).

1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that suitable education is arranged for pupils on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs and that pupils, staff and parent/carers understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on guidance provided by our local authority and has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to:

- Education Act 1996
- 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 pupils at school with medical conditions'

This policy operates in conjunction with the:

- Attendance Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Data Protection Policy - Records Management Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

3. The responsibilities of the school

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. In some instances where school cannot meet the needs of the pupil due to their health, the school can make a referral to Kent Health Needs Education Service. This referral is undertaken in partnership with the parent/carer. Kent Health Needs Education Service is run by the Kent Local Authority for children who are unable to attend school because of serious illness. <http://www.khnes.kent.sch.uk/>

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school are unable to make suitable arrangements, KCC will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children. The school will seek support as appropriate. In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parent/carer to ensure the best outcomes for the pupil
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the pupil is as effective as possible and that the child can be reintegrated back into school successfully

When reintegration is anticipated, work with the local authority to:

- Plan for consistent provision during and after the period of education outside the school, allowing the pupil to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible

- Enable the pupil to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school)
- Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school
- Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

4. **Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.