



Christ Church CE VC Primary School

“Together we learn - Together we grow - Together we flourish”
Some seeds fell on good earth and produced a harvest beyond wildest dreams.
Matthew 13:8

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

Date ratified: September 2023

Ratified by: Governing Body

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1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for pupils on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- Pupils, staff and parents understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#) and is also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

3. The responsibilities of the school

At all times, the pupil remains the responsibility of the school where they are on roll. In line with Government guidance Wiltshire schools must:

- Have a policy and named person responsible for dealing with pupils unable to attend school because of their medical needs;
- Keep the pupil on roll and include them in any planning;
- Provide work and materials if pupils are absent for up to 15 school days;
- Co-ordinate, implement and review Individual Health Care Plans / Personal Education Plans, be active in the monitoring of pupils who may attend school for partial days and monitor the progress and reintegration into school of those who have been absent because of their medical needs, liaising with other agencies as necessary;
- Draw up an Individual Health Care Plan / Personal Education Plan for any pupil with diagnosed medical conditions to be reviewed at least annually in continuing partnership with the pupil, parents and professionals;
- Ensure that pupils who have SEN but do not have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) have their SEN mentioned in their Individual Health Plan / Personal Education Plan;
- Ensure that pupils who are unable to attend school because of medical needs are kept informed about school social events and are able to participate. Examples of these are homework clubs, study support and other activities;
- Ensure that arrangements are made for pupils who are due to undertake public examinations, including assistance with scribing, alternative venue and submission of mitigation where appropriate;
- Encourage and facilitate liaison with peers for example through visits, use of Information Technology and social events.

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.

- The child's deputy Headteacher, class teacher or SENDCo will liaise with parents/carers to put in place suitable arrangements to ensure the best continuity of learning possible.
- The deputy Headteacher or phase leader will monitor arrangements between home and school, including liaison with class teachers and specialist teachers.
- The deputy Headteacher may delegate some tasks related to home schooling to the Family Support Worker.

- The school will ensure that appropriate work is sent home or sent to hospital schools where this is relevant. As far as possible, the child will be able to access the curriculum and materials that they would have used in school.
- Where appropriate, the school will provide the child's education provider with relevant information, curriculum materials and resources. It may be decided that a remote offer of education via video lessons or links to resources can be provided by the school. In those cases the school will make use of the remote learning platforms that have been successfully used previously.
- The school will monitor the child's engagement with the work and liaise with the child's parents/carers and teachers where necessary.
- Where a child is not attending due to ill health, it is important that they feel supported in their learning. It is also important that each child's situation is assessed on an individual basis and that the child's needs are met accordingly.
- The deputy Headteacher or SENDCo will also be responsible for ensuring a supported reintegration of the child back into school after an extended period of illness. Again, this will include close liaison with parents/carers, attendance lead, Subject Leaders, teachers and the Local Authority.
- When a child returns to school after an extended period of absence due to ill health, the school will closely monitor the child for one school term and support their settling back into their learning and school life.
- Should the child require further support, the school leaders will make the necessary referrals, either to in-school support programmes or outside agencies. Again, this will be done in consultation with parents/carers.
- Whilst a pupil is away from school, the school will work to ensure the pupil can successfully remain in touch with their school and may use the following methods:
 - School newsletters
 - Emails
 - Invitations to school events
 - Platforms such as Google Classroom

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Wiltshire Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

The school will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents 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 by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions