

Children with Health Needs who Cannot Attend School Policy May 2025 Bushmead Primary School



Contents

1.	Aims	1
2.	Legislation and guidance	1
3.	Roles and responsibilities	1
4.	The responsibilities of the school	1
5.	Monitoring arrangements	2
6.	Link with other policies and documents	2

1. Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for pupils on role 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.

It also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/education-system/access-to-education-for-children-with-health-needs>

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 The head teacher

The head teacher will:

- Work with staff, parents and governors to determine the strategic development of the Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy and provision in the school.
- Have overall responsibility for the provision and progress of learners with SEND and/or a disability.

3.2 The Governor/s

They will:

- Work with the head teacher and SENDCO to determine the strategic development of the Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy and provision in the school.

The Governing Body will review this policy in line with the Policy review schedule at the FGB committee meetings.

4. The responsibilities of the school

Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school:

It is important that children of compulsory school age who are unable to attend school due to health/mental health needs or illness have the same access to education as other children.

As soon as it is clear that a child will be absent for more than 15 days, this can either be consecutive days or a total of days over a period of time, the local authority must make sure that suitable education is provided. This applies whether or not the child is on the role of a school and whatever the type of school they attend. It applies to children who are pupils in academies, free schools, special schools and independent schools as well as those in maintained schools.

4.1 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 head teacher and SENDCO will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements.
- Work will be sent home via the email, or printed for collection/delivery.
- The school will consult with parents/carers about these arrangements.
- The reintegration of the pupil will be in consultation with medical staff, school, parents/carers and pupils.

4.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

In the event that school is unable to meet the needs of the child, the Head Teacher will contact the relevant parties in the Local Authority to agree support arrangements.

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, 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.

5. Monitoring arrangements

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

6. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan.
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions.

- SEND policy and Information Report.
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy.
- Attendance Policy.
- Safeguarding Policy.

Version:	4	
Written by:	E Perry	Date: Summer 2025
Last reviewed by staff:	Summer 2 2025	
Last reviewed by governors:	Summer 2 2025	
Next review due by:	Summer 2 2026	