

# Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School



**'Caring, Curious and Confident'**

**'Healthy trees bearing good fruit' – Matthew 7 v 17**

## **Children With Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy**

**Agreed by Full Governors: September 2022  
Review: September 2024**

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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](#).

It also based on guidance provided by Somerset Local Authority

## 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. This will be provided by the class teacher under the direction of the SENCO and/or headteacher. The education will be tailored to the individual's needs, take account of their medical condition, and potentially fluctuating nature, on their ability to access education and aim to minimise disruption to learning and plan for successful reintegration back to school. The plan will be developed in consultation with parents and pupils. Where the pupil is in hospital liaison via the hospital education team may be the most appropriate.

Educational experience may include, but is not limited to

- part time timetable or adapted rooming
- online learning activities using established apps e.g. Spelling Shed
- online learning activities using the online learning platform google classrooms
- access to class projects and provision of resources
- keeping in touch video 'chats' with staff and/or friends
- by working with local authority the use of a AV1 robot may be appropriate for longer absences

### 3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

Somerset Local Authority is responsible for ensuring that pupils with health needs are not at home or in hospital for more than 15 working days without access to education: this may be consecutive or cumulative with the same medical condition. Effective liaison with medical professionals will ensure that there is a minimum of delay in starting appropriate support.

There will be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the Local Authority for example where the child can still attend school with some support or where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child. There is no requirement for the Local Authority to become involved in such arrangements unless there were concerns that the education being provided was not suitable. Educational provision for pupils, who are physically ill, injured or who have clinically defined mental health problems is the responsibility of all schools and education services.

In order to access medical tuition from the local authority, a referral from the school with robust evidence from a medical professional is submitted to an Access Casework Officer for the local area. Appropriate referral forms and up to date contact details are found on the South Somerset Partnership School website ([www.spss.org.uk](http://www.spss.org.uk)). Children with appropriate referral with evidence from a medical professional will be provided with education by the area Pupil Referral Unit (PRU). 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

#### **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

SEND policy

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy