

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 2024

Review: September 2026

Contents

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Aims | 2 |
| 2. Legislation and guidance..... | 2 |
| 3. The responsibilities of the school | 2 |
| 4. Monitoring arrangements..... | 3 |
| 5. Links to other policies | 3 |

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 our local authority.

3. The responsibilities of the school

In order for this policy to be effective, there needs to be shared responsibility between Somerset Local Authority, school and partner agencies.

Start of provision:

‘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.’

School / Governing board responsibilities:

There will be instances where a child’s needs are met, without the intervention of Local Authority. This may include when a child is able to still attend school, with adaptations made to their provision, or when alternative provision has been arranged by the school for the child to be educated off-site. 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 or if the school require additional input.

[Somerset Local Offer](#)

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.

- Ali Pook (Headteacher) and Charlotte Monk (SENDCo) will be responsible for looking at any additional provision required or alternative ways of learning for the child.
- The school will work closely with health professionals and parents to ensure that the work provided is accessible to the child. Arrangements may include: sending work home, liaising with hospital schools, alternative provision to allow for the child to be educated off-site, part-time timetable.
- Regular meetings will be held alongside parents to ensure that they are aware of the support in place and are happy.
- Reintegration arrangements will be discussed among school staff and the child given a personalised reintegration plan. This may include: part-time timetable, referring to relevant agencies to support progress, inclusive of social and emotional needs. This plan will form part of the Individual Healthcare Plan and be regularly reviewed.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

- If a child is not able to access their education via their school, or educational provision within the hospital, it may be suitable for school to seek advice and support from the Local Authority.
- The school may submit a referral to the Pupil referral Unit, who will then liaise with school, medical professionals and parents to put in place appropriate provision. This referral would be considered by the Local Authority.

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 Ali Pook (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