

Children With Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Burnham On Sea Infant School

Approved by: **The Governing Body** Date: January 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 our local authority.

3. The responsibilities of the school

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.

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

The school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school. This will include setting relevant work and supplying curriculum materials and books. Where relevant, the school will liaise with outside agencies and provide relevant assessment information. The school will liaise with parents and / or children at least weekly to ensure relevant support is being provided. Where relevant a meeting will be held with parents / careers to discuss reintegration back into school life. A personalised reintegration plan will be agreed and should form part of any individual healthcare plan. This will be overseen by the Head teacher and the SENCo.

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. The 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.

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
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- 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 SENCO Shirley Marriott.

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