

Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy



Vision Statement

'Faith, Family, Future'

Jesus built his church upon the strength of St Peter – who was his rock. At St Peter's, we provide a solid foundation on which our community thrives through our rich, aspirational curriculum. As a family, we nurture and unlock individual potential through mutual love and respect; enabling all to flourish now and in the future.

'Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others'

1 Peter 4 v10

Approved by:	FGB	Date: November 2024
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Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Legislation and guidance.....	2
3. 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/carers understand what our school is responsible for when education is being provided by the local authority (LA)

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the following legislation:

- [The Education Act 1996](#)
- [The Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#)

It is also based on the following statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE):

- [Alternative provision](#)
- [Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)

This policy also follows guidance provided by our local authority and the government guidance

[Children with long-term illness - Kent County Council](#)

[Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school - GOV.UK](#)

3. Responsibilities of the school

3.1 If our school makes the arrangements

Initially, our school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver the same high standard of education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

Ms Tuckett is responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements. The class teacher will send work home for the child to complete and will email the parents with details of what is to be completed. Ms Tuckett will liaise with parents to discuss access to the work and to make a bespoke plan for reintegration back into school when possible. The details of the plan will meet the individual needs of the child.

3.2 If the local authority makes the arrangements

If our school cannot make suitable arrangements, or if it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days (consecutive or over the course of the year) or more because of their health needs, Kent County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

For pupils not well enough to attend school, it is important that the local authority and schools have clear support available to successfully maintain a continuation of education. The Rosewood School is run by the

Kent Local Authority for children who are unable to attend school because of serious illness. In the event of a child having a serious illness, we will refer your child to The Rosewood School who will get in touch with you if your child is eligible for their help.

When the local authority arranges alternative education, the education should begin as soon as possible, and at the latest by the 6th day of the child's absence from school.

Where full-time education is not in the child's best interest for reasons relating to their physical or mental health, the local authority must arrange part-time education on whatever basis it considers to be in the child's best interests.

In cases where the local authority makes the arrangements, our school will:

- Provide to the local authority, at agreed intervals, the full name and address of any pupils of compulsory school age who are not attending school regularly due to their health needs
- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers to ensure the best outcomes for the child
- Collaborate with the local authority to ensure continuity of provision and consistency of curriculum, including making information available about the curriculum
- Along with the local authority, regularly review the provision offered to ensure it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- When a child has complex or long-term health issues, work with the local authority, parents/carers and the relevant health services to decide how best to meet the child's needs (e.g. through individual support, arranging alternative provision or by them remaining at school, being supported at home and back into school after each absence)
- Where possible, allow the child to take examinations at the same time as their peers, and work with the local authority to support this
- Help make sure 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 child to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible, including through digital resources
 - Enable the child to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, digital learning platforms, social media platforms, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school), and, where appropriate, through educational visits
 - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school, which includes extra support to fill any gaps arising from the absence
 - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

4. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by Ali Tuckett, SENCo. 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