

# Dunton and Wrestlingworth Church of England VC Lower Schools Federation

## Children With Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

**Reviewed by:**

Nancy Sheehan

**Date:**

January 2022

**Review Cycle:**

Annually

**Next Review:**

January 2023

**Minuted by FGB: 28.04.2020**

**Links with other policies**

Accessibility plan

Supporting pupils with medical conditions

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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

The school will make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school for a period of less than three weeks.

### 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. The headteacher will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements.

We will contact and consult parents about the most appropriate arrangements, involving the child where appropriate. It is most likely that the class teacher will be asked to provide work for the child.

We will coordinate the reintegration of the child in consultation with parents and medical professionals where appropriate.

### 3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

The local authority provide teaching and support for children and young people of statutory school age and on the roll of a school who, due to illness, require suitable alternative arrangements for their education for the period of that illness.

Teaching is provided for pupils whose education is disrupted for an initial period exceeding three weeks, due to:

- an illness or injury keeping the pupil away from school whilst recovering
- an illness or injury requiring regular hospital attendance
- a chronic condition that causes frequent absences from school
- a mental illness requiring therapeutic support

The service provides high quality teaching, mainly in the three core subjects of maths, science and English, as a way of supporting reintegration back into school.

In the main, education takes place in a pupil's home environment. However, where the pupil is able, education takes place in other buildings and may be in small groups. Pupils remain on the roll of their school, and the medical needs teachers work in partnership with the school to ensure continuity and progression for the pupil, taking account of medical advice. Schools and the medical needs team support reintegration of pupils where the medical advice supports their readiness to return to school.

Referrals are made to the medical needs service from the pupil's school.

### Contact us

**Telephone:** 0300 300 8038

**Email:** [medicalteam@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:medicalteam@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

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 designated governor. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.