



## EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL POLICY

### **Public Sector Equality Duty**

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We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for those with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

Full Governing Body: 9 July 2025  
Due for review: July 2028

## 1. AIMS

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for students on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs
- Students, 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 from [Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

## 3. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SCHOOL

The Government's policy intention is that all children, regardless of circumstance or setting should receive a good education to enable them to shape their own futures. Therefore, alternative provision and the framework surrounding it should offer good quality education on par with that of mainstream schooling, along with the support students need to overcome barriers to attainment. This support should meet a student's individual needs, including social and emotional needs, and enable them to thrive and prosper in the education system.

### 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.

Once school has been notified that a young person will be absent from school for a protracted period of time due to an on-going medical issue then the following steps will be taken:

- The Year Leader, SENCo, Educational Social Worker or other Pastoral Manager will contact the parents to arrange for work to be sent home for completion. This can be done via paper based or computer based assignments.
- Parents will either be emailed or work will be sent via the post.
- A member of staff will telephone weekly to check on progress and well-being.
- In-person safe and well checks will be arranged if the young person is able to have visitors.
- Staged re-integration may be necessary for the young person and advice will be sought from the parent and health practitioner prior to any re-integration plan being formalised.

### 3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, BCP Children's Services will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

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 student
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the student is as effective as possible and that the child can be reintegrated back into school successfully
- In-person safe and well checks will be arranged if the young person is able to have visitors.
- 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 student to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible
  - Enable the student 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 Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral). 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 students with medical conditions