

# Children with health needs who cannot attend school Policy

## St Francis' Catholic Primary School

St. Francis'  
Catholic Primary



Approved by FGB on: Nov 21

Approved by Committee: Mission & Ethos Oct 21

Next review due by: Nov 22

## **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.

## **3. The responsibilities of the school**

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

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, the school will 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. The responsibility of the Local Authority**

Local authorities should work with schools to support pupils with medical conditions to attend full-time. Where pupils would not receive a suitable education in a mainstream school because of their health needs, the local authority has a duty to make other arrangements. Statutory guidance for local authorities sets out that they should be ready to make arrangements under this duty when it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days or more because of health needs (whether consecutive or cumulative across the school year).

## **5. The role of clinical commissioning groups (CCGs)**

Clinical commissioning groups commission other healthcare professionals such as specialist nurses. They should ensure that commissioning is responsive to children's needs, and that health services are able to co-operate with schools supporting children with medical conditions. They have a reciprocal duty to co-operate un-

der Section 10 of the Children Act 2004 and must make joint commissioning arrangements for education, health and care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities (as described above for local authorities).

#### **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Resources committee. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

#### **7. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

Accessibility plan

Supporting pupils with medical conditions

Equalities info and objectives