



St Mary's C of E (VA) Primary School

Working together
in an inclusive Christian environment
to allow every pupil to shine brighter and brighter.

St Mary's is an inclusive school where we believe that all people are of equal value, irrespective of their ethnicity, culture, religion, gender, ability or sexual identity. We recognise and respect differences.

Children with Health Needs who Cannot Attend School Policy

This policy is GDPR compliant.

Date of issue: May 2021

Last reviewed/adopted: Nov 25 (Full Governing Board)

Next review date: Autumn 2026

Signed: _____

Date: _____

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 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

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, Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo) and class teacher will be responsible for agreeing suitable provision. It is the SENDCo's role to make and monitor these arrangements. This may include arranging for work to be sent home or to a hospital. The SENDCo (in liaison with the class teacher) will agree initial arrangement with the parent/carer of the child concerned. The SENDCo will monitor this arrangement on a weekly basis for as long as the child is unable to attend school.

Depending on the child's age/nature of their health needs arrangements may include: work set on a digital platform (e.g. Google Classroom), paper-based activities (e.g. worksheets), emails/website suggestions.

When the child is able to return to school the SENDCo (in agreement with the Headteacher) is responsible for agreeing a planned return to school that reflects both the parent/carers and school's views. The ultimate aim being to support the child to return to full-time on site education wherever possible.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Hertfordshire County Council 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/carers 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 Headteacher. 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