



St Peters CofE Primary Academy

Trust Headteacher: David Castledine

Chair of Combined Local Academy Committee: Zoe Heath

Children Who Cannot Attend School Due to Medical Needs Policy

St. Peter's C of E Primary Academy

'One Family Under God'

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 is also based on the following DFE Guidance updated December 2023:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

and is also based on guidance provided by our local authority

Staffordshire County Council:

<https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/advice.page?id=cwhbuUNF4cc>

3. The responsibilities of the school

Our school will comply with a child's Individual Health Care Plan and provide education on site as far as possible. Once a child is absent from school for 15 days or more due to medical needs, the school will liaise with the local authority to discuss the next steps.

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.

In such cases, the Attendance Lead, the SENDco and the class-based staff will work closely. This will ensure that any child not attending school for 15 days or more due to medical needs, has access to learning such as paper-based packs or a remote learning offer, if they are well enough to access learning.

Children will be reintegrated back into school at the earliest opportunity and in line with a child's Individual Health Care Plan.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Staffordshire County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

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 Mr D Castledine (Trust Headteacher). At every review, it will be approved by the Combined Local Academy Committee.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

Accessibility plan

Management of medical conditions

SEND Policy

Attendance Policy

Date policy approved: 05/02/26

Date to be reviewed: February 2027