



# Children with Health Needs who cannot attend School



Boughton Primary School: An Academy

An Academy

2025- 2026

An Academy

<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY:</b>	<b><i>MRS JODIE HARTWELL</i></b>
<b>APPROVED:</b>	<b><i>MRS MARY JAMES</i></b>
<b>TO BE REVIEWED:</b>	<b><i>ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027</i></b>

At Boughton Primary School, the named personnel with designated responsibility for this policy are:

<b>Head Teacher</b>	<b>Deputy Head Teacher</b>	<b>Safeguarding Governor</b>
<i>Mary James</i>	<i>Jodie Hartwell</i>	<i>Karen Wilson</i>

## Contents

1. Aims .....	1
2. Legislation and guidance .....	1
3. Responsibilities of the school .....	2
4. Monitoring arrangements.....	3
5. Links to other policies .....	3

## 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 our school is responsible for when education is being provided by the local authority

## 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the following legislation:

- › [The Education Act 1996](#)
- › [The Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) Regulations 2006](#)

It is also based on the following statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE):

- › [Alternative provision](#)
- › [Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs](#)

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

## 3. Responsibilities of the school

### 3.1 If our school makes the arrangements

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

The class teacher, in conjunction with the Key Stage Leader, will be responsible for making the necessary arrangements. The Head Teacher will monitor these arrangements and provide any support needed to assist the staff in successfully managing arrangements.

In the first instance, our arrangements for any child with health needs will mirror those in our Remote Education plan, using a combination of recorded or live-streamed lessons, work sent home either on paper or by email, and platforms/apps in use by the school (e.g. Mathletics).

If a pupil is likely to have a prolonged absence from school, we will consult with the EIPT and the Hospital and Outreach Service, in order to make sure the plan for the pupil is appropriate and matched to their ongoing health needs.

Communication with parents and children will take place via our usual channels: Tapestry, gmail and Google Classroom.

When a pupil is well enough to return to school, we will discuss their reintegration with their parents; some children may be able to come straight back to full-time school, whilst others may need a phased return or staggered timetable to ease them back in.

### 3.2 If the local authority makes the arrangements

If our school cannot make suitable arrangements, or if it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days (consecutive or over the course of the year) or more because of their health needs, West Northamptonshire Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

When the local authority arranges alternative education, the education should begin as soon as possible, and at the latest by the 6<sup>th</sup> day of the child's absence from school.

Where full-time education is not in the child's best interest for reasons relating to their physical or mental health, the local authority must arrange part-time education on whatever basis it considers to be in the child's best interests.

Whatever the situation or individual set of circumstances, Boughton Primary School will endeavour to work in the best interests of the child, liaising with parents and other agencies, to ensure that there is minimal disruption to a child's education.

The guidance states:

*There is no absolute legal deadline by which local authorities must start to arrange education for children with additional health needs. However, as soon as it is clear that a child will be away from school for 15 days or more because of their health needs, the local authority should arrange suitable alternative provision. The 15 days may be consecutive or over the course of a school year. When a local authority arranges alternative education, that education should begin as soon as it is possible, and at the latest by the sixth day of the child's absence from school. Where an absence is planned, for example for a stay or recurrent stays in hospital, local authorities must make suitable, timely arrangements, unless exceptional circumstances apply, in advance to allow provision to begin from day one.*

In cases where the local authority makes the arrangements, we will:

- Provide to the local authority, at agreed intervals, the full name and address of any pupils of compulsory school age who are not attending school regularly due to their health needs
- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents/carers to ensure the best outcomes for the child
- Collaborate with the local authority to ensure continuity of provision and consistency of curriculum, including making information available about the curriculum

- Along with the local authority, regularly review the provision offered to ensure it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required
- When a child has complex or long-term health issues, work with the local authority, parents/carers and the relevant health services to decide how best to meet the child's needs (e.g. through individual support, arranging alternative provision or by them remaining at school, being supported at home and back into school after each absence)
- Where possible, allow the child to take examinations at the same time as their peers, and work with the local authority to support this
- Help make sure 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 child to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible, including through digital resources
  - Enable the child to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, digital learning platforms, social media platforms, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school), and, where appropriate, through educational visits
  - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school, which includes extra support to fill any gaps arising from the absence
  - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made

#### **4. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by Mary James (Head Teacher) and Karen Wilson (Safeguarding Governor).

#### **5. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Attendance policy
- SEN policy
- Equality objectives