

# Chew Stoke Church School



## Policy for Children with health needs who cannot attend school

This policy is written with reference to the Christian Foundation of the school.

*'Confident in Learning, Caring in Life'*

*Our vision has been inspired by Luke 10:27*

This policy should be taken and used as part of Chew Stoke Church School's overall strategy and implemented within the context of our aims and values as a Church of England School

Approved by:	The Governing Board	Date: 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
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Last reviewed on:	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
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Next review due by:	February 2027
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### 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 also based on guidance provided by our local authority. <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/school-absence-due-illness>. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

### 3. The responsibilities of the school

At Chew Stoke Church School we aim to ensure that all children, regardless of circumstance or setting, receive a good education to enable them to shape their own futures. Where children are unable to attend school because of their health, the school will follow Department of Education guidance and work with Bath & North East Somerset Council, who have the responsibility to arrange suitable full-time education (or part-time when appropriate for the child's needs) for children who are unable to attend a mainstream school because of their health.

The Local Authority is responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for children who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. There will however be a wide range of circumstances where a child has a health need but will receive suitable education that meets their needs without the intervention of the Local Authority, for example, where the child can still attend school with some support. Where the school has made arrangements to deliver suitable education outside of school for the child; or where arrangements have been made for the child to be educated in a hospital by an on-site hospital school, we would not expect the Local Authority to become involved in such arrangements unless it had reason to think that the education being provided to the child was not suitable or, while otherwise suitable, was not full-time or for the number of hours the child could benefit from without adversely affecting their health. This might be the case where, for example, the child can attend school but only intermittently.

#### 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.

This will involve:

Initial contact being made by the pastoral team to establish the child's individual medical need and potential barriers to attending school.

Arrangements being agreed and established e.g. sending work home (including the provision of virtual learning through school's identified learning programmes), education offsite (including through hospital schools) or additional adult support within schools (in line with an individual health care plan as appropriate).

Ongoing discussions between families, school and health providers to monitor agreed arrangements and identify when/how pupils can be reintegrated back into school (where appropriate).

Liaising with the SENDCo for pupils who also have Special Education Needs (SEN).

### **3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements**

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Bath & North East Somerset Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

Where a pupil has medical needs that prevent them from attending Chew Stoke Church School for 15 days or more, we will refer them to the Education Inclusion Service, using the Single Point of Access Referral Form.

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 every two years 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

SEND policy