



EMMAUS CATHOLIC MAC

Supporting Children With Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Version	1.0
Date created/updated	7 th September 2023
Ratified by	Full Board
Date ratified	17 th September 2023
Date issued	September 2023
Policy review date	September 2025
Post holder responsible	Catholic Senior Executive Leader (CSEL)



Commitment to Equality:

We are committed to providing a positive working environment which is free from prejudice and unlawful discrimination and any form of harassment, bullying or victimisation. We have developed a number of key policies to ensure that the principles of Catholic Social Teaching in relation to human dignity and dignity in work become embedded into every aspect of school life and these policies are reviewed regularly in this regard.

This Supporting Children With Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy has been approved and adopted by Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Company on 17th September 2023 and will be reviewed in September 2025.

Signed by Director of Emmaus Catholic MAC: *J Griffin*

Signed by CSEL for Central Team: *S Horan*

Schools to which this policy relates:

Signed by Principal for – Hagley Catholic High School

Signed by Principal for – Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School:

Signed by Principal for – Our Lady & St Hubert’s Catholic Primary School:

Signed by Principal for – St Ambrose Catholic Primary School:

Signed by Principal for – St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School:

Signed by Principal for – St Gregory’s Catholic Primary School:

Signed by Principal for – St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School

Signed by Principal for – St Mary’s Catholic Primary School:

Signed by Principal for – St Philip’s Catholic Primary School:

Signed by Principal for – St Wulstan’s Catholic Primary School:



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DEFINITIONS

The Company's standard set of definitions is contained at [Definition of Terms](#) – please refer to this for the latest definitions.

1. Aims

- 1.1 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

- 2.1 This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#).
- 2.2 It is also based on guidance provided by the local authority. As schools within Emmaus Catholic MAC are located within four different local authorities, each school will refer to the guidance provided by their local authority.
- 2.3 This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Responsibilities of the school

- 3.1 Each school should create their own school policy using this Emmaus policy as a template and referring to their local authority guidance, changing the information highlighted in yellow in line with the contextual procedures in each setting.

Check the relevant local authority guidance on providing education to children with additional health needs, to see what responsibilities it places on you in this circumstance.

Adapt the sections below as needed. You'll also need to edit the text in section 3.2 if your responsibilities deviate from what we've set out, which is general good practice derived from [DfE guidance](#).

- 3.2 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.

You may want to add more details on areas such as:

- Who in the named school will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements
- What sort of arrangements could be made (e.g. sending work home, hospital schools)

- How you will consult parents and pupils about these arrangements
- How you will reintegrate pupils back into school

3.3 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school is unable to make suitable arrangements, the appropriate local authority (INSERT NAME) will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

You may want to add more details about how and when the local authority would take over responsibility, such as:

- How it will be decided if arrangements are 'suitable'
- How many days a child would need to be absent from school
- The process for referring a child to the local authority

In cases where the local authority makes arrangements, the school and MAC 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

- 4.1 This policy will be reviewed by the Catholic Senior Executive Leader and, at every review, it will be approved by the Board of Directors.

5. Links to other policies

5.1 This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility Plan
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions
- School Attendance Policy

