

**Woodmancote School and Little Chestnuts  
Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy**

Designated Member of Staff	S Johnson
Committee with responsibility	Whole GB
Date of Issue	September 2023
Frequency of Review	Yearly
Next Review	September 2024

Issue Number	Issue Date	Summary of Changes
1		New Policy based on model policy and related to GCC guidance.
2	September 2024	Reviewed-No changes
3	September 2025	Reviewed-No changes

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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 is also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/17403/la-guidance-for-schools-supporting-pupils-with-medical-needs-amended-5917.pdf>

## 3. 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 Pastoral Team and SENDCo will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements.

A meeting will be made with parents / carers to discuss arrangements for working from home or hospital.

A plan will be drawn up detailing agreed actions from the discussion.

Arrangements could include sending work home, attending online lessons or providing alternative notes and resources.

Where appropriate will also attempt to maintain social contact with the young person's peer group.

The pupil will be slowly integrated back into school with either alternative arrangements to make it possible such as alternative provision for break or lunch times or the pupil may come back into school on a reduced timetable until their health needs have been met.

### 3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

The LA should:

- Provide such education as soon as it is clear that a pupil will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative. They should liaise with the appropriate medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the pupil. Ensure the education pupils receive is of good quality, allows them to take appropriate qualifications, prevents them from falling behind their peers in school, and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible.
- Address the needs of individual pupils in arranging provision.
- Have a named officer responsible for the education of children with additional health needs and ensure parents know who this is.
- Have a written, publicly accessible policy statement on their arrangements to comply with their legal duty towards children with additional health needs.

- Review the provision offered regularly to ensure that it continues to be appropriate for the child and that it is providing suitable education.

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 the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.