



Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Children with health Needs who cannot attend school Policy – Nov 2023

Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

This policy has been screened to ensure that we give 'due consideration' to equality of opportunity and has been agreed and formally approved by the appropriate reviewing and ratification Committee.

Author	Deb Williams	Date reviewed	Nov 24
Position	Headteacher	Date ratified	14 November 2024
Document status	Ratified	Next review date	Autumn 25
EIA approved by	S&W	Reviewing committee	S&W

EIA = due consideration of potential adverse impacts on the following groups: age; disability; gender and gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; racial groups; religion or belief; sexual orientation.

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

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the Education Act 1996. It also based on guidance provided by our local authority South Gloucestershire Council

<https://sites.southglos.gov.uk/safeguarding/wp-content/uploads/sites/221/2020/09/5.7-Children-in-specific-circumstances.pdf> , who state that 'A CYP who is hospitalised should have access to education that is appropriate to meet their needs. This includes CYP admitted to hospital under Section 2 on the Mental Health Act 2007'.

The responsibilities of the school

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 school will inform the Local Authority who will assist with co-ordinating the education and support needed until the pupil is deemed well enough to return to their school.
- The SENCo will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements for children with SEN.
- 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 the school 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).

If the local authority makes arrangements:

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, South Gloucestershire Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children until the pupil is deemed well enough to return to their school.

The LA should:

- Provide such education as soon as it is clear that a pupil will be away from school for 15 consecutive school days or more.
- 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.

If a child with an EHC plan is admitted to hospital, the hospital should inform the Local Authority EHCP Co-ordination team who will work to ensure the plan is maintained and the provision set out is provided. There may be need for a review and amendments to ensure the plan remains appropriate at this time.

If a pupil resident in South Gloucestershire is admitted to hospital in another area, South Gloucestershire Local Authority is still responsible for the education arrangements for that pupil

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, school will 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

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.