



DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER  
ACADEMY TRUST

## Children with health needs who cannot attend school policy

|                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Date Agreed:</b>    | <b>October 2023</b>          |
| <b>Review Date:</b>    | <b>October 2025</b>          |
| <b>Type of Policy:</b> | <b>DCAT Statutory Policy</b> |

| Revision Number | Date Issued    | Prepared by | Approved    | Comments  |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| 3               | October 2023   | JH/JS       | Trust Board |   |
| 2               | September 2021 | DCAT        | Trust Board | Taken from The Key Model Policy and reviewed by a Trust SENCO |
| 1               | June 2020      | CF / VL     |             | Taken from The Key Model Policy and reviewed by a Trust SENCO |
|                 |                |             |             |   |

| Type of Policy             | Tick ✓ |
|----------------------------|--------|
| DCAT Statutory Policy      | ✓      |
| DCAT Non-statutory Policy  |        |
| DCAT Model Optional Policy |        |

## Contents

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Introduction .....                                 | 1 |
| 1. Policy Aims.....                                | 2 |
| 2. Legislation and guidance .....                  | 2 |
| 3. The responsibilities of the school .....        | 2 |
| 3.1 If the school makes arrangements.....          | 2 |
| 3.2 If the Local Authority makes arrangements..... | 2 |
| 4. Monitoring arrangements .....                   | 3 |
| 5. Links to other policies .....                   | 3 |

## Introduction

Our **vision** for our Trust is we exist to:

***Help every child achieve their God-given potential***

Our **aims** are clear. We aim to be a Trust in which:

- D**eveloping the whole child means pupils achieve and maximise their potential
- C**ontinued development of staff is valued and improves education for young people
- A**ll schools are improving and perform above national expectations
- T**he distinct Christian identity of each academy develops and is celebrated

Our work as a Trust is underpinned by shared **values**. They are taken from the Church of England's vision for Education and guide the work of Trust Centre team. They are:

### **Aspiration**

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me  
(Philippians 4 vs 13).

### **Wisdom**

Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise  
(Proverbs 19 vs 20)

### **Respect**

So in everything do to others what you would have them do to you  
(Matthew 7 vs 12)

Our vision of helping every child achieve their God-given potential is aligned with the Church of England's vision for education and is underpinned by the Bible verse from John: *I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

# 1. Policy Aims

The Trust and its schools aim to ensure that:

- Schools will provide suitable full-time education to every pupil who is absent or who is likely to be absent from school for more than 15 working days (either consecutively or cumulatively) because of the same health condition. The only exception to this policy is if, given the pupil's health condition, that provision would not be in the pupil's best interests. In every case a doctor must provide written confirmation that the pupil cannot attend school.
- Pupils, staff and parents understand what the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority
- Pupils in school are safe and happy

# 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of the [Education Act 1996](#).

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

# 3. The responsibilities of the school

The March CE primary school is guided by the DfE document Children with health needs who cannot attend school which states that, where a child cannot attend school because of health problems, and they would not otherwise receive a suitable full-time education, the LA is responsible for arranging provision. When the situation arises, the school will therefore contact the West Sussex Fair Access Team/Alternative Provision Team.

The headteacher/Senco will be responsible for working with external agencies

The School office team will be responsible for delivering the health care needs of the pupil. The SENCO will be responsible for and SEND and inclusion needs.

## 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 healthcare needs preventing a child attending school in the scope of this policy will be as recognised by County.

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

The Child's teacher will be responsible for ensuring work is sent home and is in line with the curriculum and will utilise remote working where possible.

Families will be encouraged to keep in touch with the school and support the child to access their school work. Google Classroom will be utilised if appropriate for lessons and homework will be set. Re-integration will be carefully considered and a phased return plan will be put in place if this is in the child's

## 3.2 If the Local Authority makes arrangements

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/local-offer/>

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, the Local Authority will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these pupils.

You may want to add more details about how and when your 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 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 2 years by DCAT. At every review, it will be approved by the Trust Board.

## 5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions