



Hanbury CE First School

Children with health needs who cannot attend school

Adopted by	Hanbury CE First School Governing Body
Governors' Committee Responsible	SIC
Status & Review Cycle	Annually
Staff Lead	SENDCo
Date of approval	June 2026
Review date	June 2027

Our Vision...

Flourishing Through Love and Nurture

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

We flourish because:

We are a family founded on love and nurture

We build resilience for life

We are outward looking

We celebrate every step forward

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 the Department for Education's guidance, *Arranging education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs* (2023), and guidance provided by Worcestershire County Council.

For the purposes of this policy, health needs may include physical illnesses, long-term medical conditions, mental health difficulties, anxiety-related school absence where supported by medical evidence, and recovery from illness, injury or medical treatment.

3. Responsibilities of the School

3.1 If the School Makes Arrangements

Initially, the school will seek to provide suitable education for pupils who are unable to attend school due to health needs.

- The SENDCo (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator) will liaise with the class teacher, parents/carers and, where appropriate, health professionals to arrange suitable support.
- Home learning will be provided at regular intervals and adapted to meet the pupil's individual needs and abilities.
- The SENDCo or class teacher will maintain regular contact with the pupil and family to monitor wellbeing, engagement and progress.
- Where appropriate, reasonable adjustments will be made to support access to learning.
- Upon return to school, the class teacher will assess any gaps in learning and implement appropriate interventions where necessary.

3.2 If the Local Authority Makes Arrangements

If the school is unable to make suitable educational arrangements, responsibility for securing appropriate provision will pass to Worcestershire County Council.

- The SENDCo will make a referral to the Medical Education Team (MET).
- The Medical Education Team fulfils the local authority's duty to ensure that pupils with medical needs receive suitable full-time education, or as much education as their health condition allows.

The Medical Education Team provides:

- Advice and guidance to schools regarding procedures for medically absent pupils.
- Educational provision from the fifteenth day of absence (whether consecutive or cumulative), or from the first day in cases of prolonged or recurrent illness.

- Personalised education plans tailored to the individual needs of the pupil.
- Regular monitoring, review and evaluation of progress.
- Tuition in an agreed setting determined in consultation with professionals, parents/carers and the child or young person (CYP).
- Reintegration planning and support where appropriate.
- Collaboration with school staff and external agencies, including health services and CAMHS.

Pupils will remain on roll at Hanbury CE First School, which retains overall responsibility for monitoring their educational progress, attendance and welfare during periods of medical absence.

4. Working with the Local Authority

Where the local authority assumes responsibility for educational provision, the school will:

- Work collaboratively with the local authority, education providers, health services and families.
- Share relevant information, assessments and records in accordance with UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 requirements.
- Monitor the effectiveness of provision and contribute to planning for successful reintegration.

When a pupil is expected to return to school, the school will:

- Plan for continuity of learning during and after the period of absence.
- Ensure access, wherever possible, to the same curriculum content and learning materials as their peers.
- Support the pupil in maintaining links with school life through newsletters, emails, invitations to events and, where appropriate, virtual learning opportunities.
- Develop and implement an individual reintegration plan.
- Consider and make any reasonable adjustments necessary to support the pupil's successful return.

5. Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the SENDCo.

The policy will be approved by the School Improvement Committee and adopted by the Full Governing Body.

The impact and effectiveness of this policy will be evaluated through monitoring of individual cases, pupil outcomes, attendance data and successful reintegration rates, and reported to governors through the SENDCo's report where appropriate.

6. Linked Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Exclusions Policy
- Equality Policy
- Online Safety (E-Safety) Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy