

# Monksmoor Park CE Primary School

## Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

**Date ratified by Governors:**  
8<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**Dates reviewed by Governors:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Note:** This document takes account of the most up to date central government information and guidance, at the time of writing (see footer). It is subject to change as guided by government policy.

## 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 also based on guidance provided by our local authority.

<https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/SEND/local-offer/Downloads/09.18-northants-la-policy-for-pupils-with-medical-needs.pdf>

## 3. The 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 SENCo is responsible for making and monitoring all arrangements.

Children unable to attend school because of health needs should be able to access suitable and flexible education appropriate to their needs. The nature of the provision must be responsive to the demands of what may be a changing health status. Arrangements will depend on the particular circumstances of the child but may include Hospital and Outreach provision/support, reduced curriculum, reduced timetable, distance learning and 1:1 tuition.

A personalised plan for intervention will be prepared by the SENCo, setting clear objectives for improvement and attainment, timeframes, the monitoring of progress and a baseline of the current position from which to measure progress. Plans should also link to other relevant information, such as Education, Health and Care plans for children with SEND.

As far as possible, the child should be able to access the curriculum and materials that he or she would have used in school. The school will ensure that children can successfully remain in touch with their school while they are away. This could be through school newsletters, emails, invitations to school events or internet links to lessons from their school.

The SECNO will set up an individually tailored reintegration plan for each child. This may have to include extra support to help fill any gaps arising from the child's absence. The school nurse will also want to be aware that the child is returning to school, so that they can be prepared to offer any appropriate support. Under equalities legislation<sup>10</sup> schools must consider whether they need to make any reasonable adjustments to provide suitable access for the child.

Where the absence is likely to be lengthy, the reintegration plan may only take shape nearer to the likely date of return, to avoid putting unsuitable pressure on an ill child in the early stages of their absence. While most children will want to return to their previous school routine at once, some will need gradual reintegration over a longer period.

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Northamptonshire County Council has made Hospital and Outreach Education (HOE) responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

HOE may provide appropriate education, or may provide advice to school on how best they can meet their pupil's needs, once requested by the school, and as soon as it is clear that the child will be away from school for 15 days or more or is too unwell to access education at their home school/normal place of education.

The 15 days can be consecutive or cumulative within a 12 month period.

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

#### **5. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- NCC Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs