

Children with Health Needs Who Cannot Attend School Policy

Meare Village Primary School



Approved by:	Governing Body	Date: April 2026
Last reviewed on:	April 2026	
Next review due by:	April 2028	

Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Legislation and guidance	2
3. Responsibilities of the school	2
4. Monitoring arrangements.....	3
5. Links to other policies	3

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.

3. Responsibilities of the school

The school follows [DfE guidance](#).

3.1 If the school makes arrangements

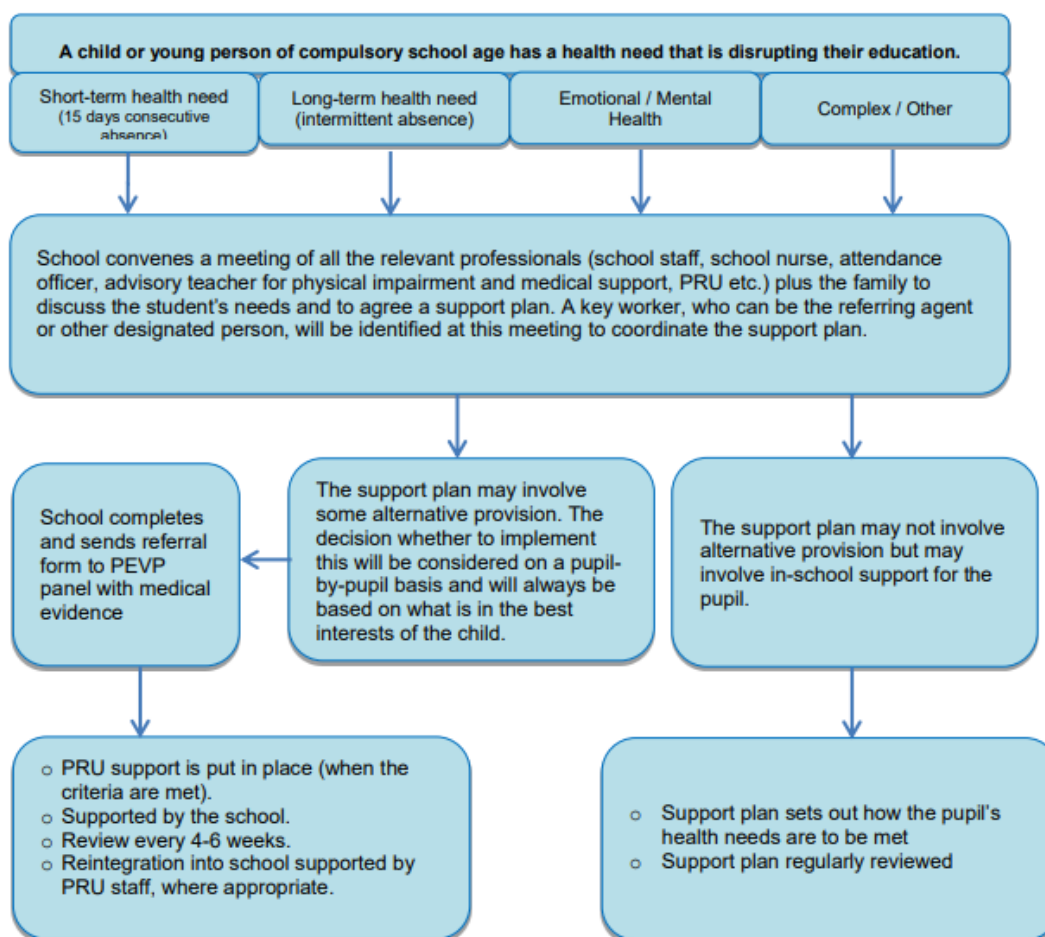
Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

- › The Head Teacher and SENDCO are responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements
- › Each plan/provision will be individual to the child's needs: Sending work home, home tuition, IT support depending on the age of the pupil, stage in their academic studies, medical condition, advice from medical professionals, views of the pupil and parents.
- › The school will consult with parents and pupils about these arrangements
- › Reintegration back into school may include part-time timetable, adjusted and modified timetables will be part of a planned phased return to school at the point agreed by all professionals that it is appropriate.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

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

For details of how and when the local authority would take responsibility, please see the following flow chart:



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.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions