



St. Hilary School

Educating Children with Medical or Mental Health Needs Policy

Introduction:

Children with temporary or recurring medical or mental health needs are valued as full and participating members of the school community.

Rationale:

St. Hilary School will do all it can to ensure that such children are supported through their period of absence from school and sensitively re-integrated once they are well enough to attend.

The school will at all times aim to work in partnership with parents to ensure the best possible outcomes and a return to school as soon as possible.

School procedure:

The school may need to seek the assistance of the Community and Hospital Education Service (CHES), which exists to provide education for pupils unable to attend school due to medical reasons. These pupils may be:

- (a) Children who have been deemed by a medical practitioner as being too ill to attend the school for more than 15 days or who have conditions which lead to recurrent absences from school which becomes significant in the longer term.
- (b) Children with mental health problems who are unable to attend the school.

The aim of the CHES is to:

- Ensure early identification and intervention and thus reduce anxiety for children and young people, families and schools.
- Provide an education package comprising of online learning and group tuition, for all children and young people of statutory school age whose health enables them to access this.
- Encourage close liaison with parents and carers at every stage of the process.
- Ensure that the child's view is taken into account at every stage.

- Provide continuity of educational provision.
- Promote successful re-inclusion into school.
- Work together with other services and agencies to ensure there is a high quality educational provision for this group of vulnerable children and young people.
- In conjunction with schools to offer full time education for pupils with medical needs.
- Ensure effective liaison with health professionals by schools, CHES and other IEP provision.

CHES can be contacted on:

01872 252801 which is the Hospital Education Service, or

01579 342027 if the child is at home

The school will continue to maintain a contact with the child who is unwell and not attending school and will contribute to their IEP (Individual education plan) in order that they may enjoy a continuous and high level of education and support from the school during their period of absence. This may include providing CHES with relevant information about the child, supporting the process of achieving public examinations or taking part in National Curriculum tests.

Reviewed by: Full governing body- Autumn 2015

To be reviewed: Autumn 2017