Cranham
Church of England (VA)
Primary School
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Education of Children with Medical Needs who are unable to attend School Policy

Title:	Education of Children with Medical Needs who are unable to attend School Policy
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Chair of Governing Body:	Nicki Clapton
Headteacher:	Mrs Sarah Scott
Responsible Governor:	Nicki Clapton
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Introduction

Cranham C of E Primary School works in partnership with pupils, parents/carers, medical services, other professionals and education providers to ensure children with medical needs who are unable to attend school due to medical conditions receive education in a hospital setting or at home. We as a school will promote the education entitlement of pupils on roll and secure effective provision.

This also applies to pupils who are unable to attend school for reasons of sickness, injury or mental health needs where a medical practitioner considers the child should and could not attend school. 'Pupil' refers to those children who remain on school roll and are educated temporarily in a hospital setting or home tuition.

This policy is based on the statutory guidance for the Local Authority 'Ensuring a Good Education for Children who cannot attend School because of Health Needs' January 2013.

The Role of School

- Where a child is absent from school for medical reasons, the school will provide education tasks and resources for use at home when the child is well enough to engage in education.
- Arrange to meet with parents to discuss and plan agreed actions to provide education for the child from home or from hospital.
- The headteacher and SENCo will be responsible for monitoring these arrangements and to hold review meetings where necessary.
- In some cases the headteacher will seek support from the Local Authority in making arrangements for the education of pupils who cannot attend school.
- The headteacher will make sure that all relevant staff are aware of a pupil's absence and of their responsibility towards maintaining continuity of education for the child.
- The headteacher will report to the governors on the education provision which has been made for the pupil absent for medical reasons.
- Where pupils have recurrent admissions or have planned admission to hospital, the school will aim to provide a pack of work for the child to take to hospital with them.

Role of the Headteacher

• Ensuring the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the arrangements to support the needs of pupils are clear and understood by all.

• Ensuring robust systems are in place for dealing with health emergencies and critical incidents, for both on- and off-site activities.

• Ensuring staff with responsibility for supporting pupils with health needs are appropriately trained.

• Appointing a named member of staff who is responsible for pupils with healthcare needs and liaises with parents, pupils, the LA, key workers and others involved in the pupil's care.

• Providing teachers who support pupils with health needs with suitable information relating to a pupil's health condition and the possible effect the condition and/or medication taken has on the pupil.

• Notifying the LA when a pupil is likely to be away from the school for a significant period of time due to their health needs

- The headteacher will report to the Governors on the education provision which has been made for the pupil absent for medical reasons.

The Role of SENDCo

- Managing the support of pupils who are unable to attend school because of medical needs.
- Actively monitoring pupil progress and reintegration into school.
- Supplying other education providers with information about the child's capabilities, progress and outcomes (e.g. hospital school).
- Liaising with the headteacher, education providers and parents to determine pupils' programmes of study whilst they are absent from school.

The Role of Teachers and Support Staff

- Understanding confidentiality in respect of pupils' health needs.
- Designing lessons and activities in a way that allows those with health needs to participate fully and ensuring pupils are not excluded from activities that they wish to take part in without a clear evidence-based reason.
- Understanding their role in supporting pupils with health needs and ensuring they attend the required training.
- Ensuring they are aware of the needs of their pupils through the appropriate and lawful sharing of the individual pupil's health needs.
- Ensuring they are aware of the signs, symptoms and triggers of common life-threatening medical conditions and know what to do in an emergency.
- Keeping parents informed of how their child's health needs are affecting them whilst in the school.

Reintegration to School

The school will work with providers of education, doctors, educational psychologists, personal advisors, all relevant professionals, parents/carers of the pupil themselves and plan a gradual reintegration into school.

The school will make sure that pupils and staff who have maintained contact with the pupil who has been absent will play a significant role in supporting the pupil to settle back into school.

The school will accept part time attendance where the pupils are medically incapable of coping with a full day, until they are able to attend full school days.

The school will make arrangements for pupils with mobility problems to return to school, organising risk assessments in line with health and safety issues and seeking advice on lifting and handling procedures where necessary.

The school will maintain contact with parents/carers during a pupil’s absence. This will include invitations to events and productions in school as well as regular communication via email, newsletters, text messaging system and letters.

The school should expect to receive regular reports and assessment of pupil progress from the service provider such as the Hospital Education Trust during the pupil’s absence.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed every year and will be distributed to staff to read and respond if necessary. The SENCo will liaise with parents/carers of the child and to the necessary education providers to ensure intervention plans in place are effective and running smoothly.