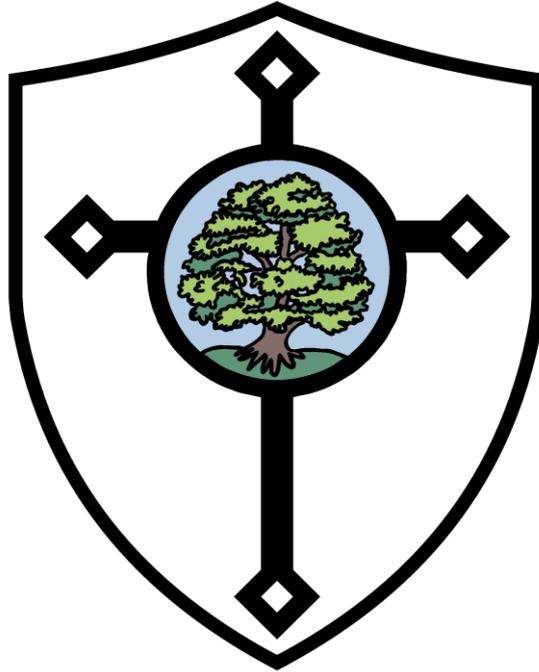


The New Forest C of E (VA) Primary School
at Landford, Nomansland & Hamptworth



**Supporting Pupils
with Medical Conditions
Policy**

Adopted: July 2016

Last reviewed/approved: May 2018

Review: yearly

Status: statutory

Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

The New Forest Church of England Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, governors and volunteers to share this commitment. We have adopted the 'Fruits of the Spirit' (Galatians 5:22) as our school values and expect these to be demonstrated by everyone in our school in accordance with our mission statement
'Growing and Learning Together through Christian Values'.

1. Introduction

Most pupils at some time have a medical condition, which may prevent them from attending school. For the majority this will be short term. For pupils who have long-term or recurrent illness, access to school may be limited. The Department for Education (DfE) has produced statutory guidance 'Access to Education for Children and Young People with Medical Needs' with regard to pupils who may be absent for more than 15 school days because of medical need. This policy statement has been written to comply with such guidance.

The New Forest Primary School seeks to maintain a high quality education for those pupils on roll who have medical needs and are unable to attend school as a result.

The New Forest Primary School will work closely with the Local Authority (LA), health professionals and other agencies to ensure that their pupils receive access to appropriate educational provision when they are not able to attend school.

The New Forest Primary School is mindful of the objectives set out in the document 'Every Child Matters' and the importance of providing support for those objectives to be achieved when their pupils are not able to attend school.

The school recognises that pupils at school with medical conditions should be properly supported so that they have full access to education, including school trips and physical education. Some children with medical conditions may be disabled and where this is the case the school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

Some children may also have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and may have an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) which brings together health and social care needs, as well as their special educational need provision and the SEND Code of Practice (2014) is followed.

Staff will be trained to support pupils at school with medical conditions in line with the Statutory Guidance on Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions (April 2014).

2. Management responsibility

The designated member of staff with responsibility for pupils with medical needs at The New Forest Primary School is the Head Teacher, Mr Paul Lailey. The role of the designated member of staff is to provide a link between the school, family, and the LA and other agencies.

3. Continuing provision for pupils with medical needs

When The New Forest Primary School becomes aware that a pupil will be absent for more than 15 school days because of their medical need, the designated member of staff will notify the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) as soon as possible. This will assist the LA with continuity of educational provision. The designated member of staff will provide the EWO with such information as is required to make a referral to an appropriate education provider. Parental consent will be obtained before information regarding the pupil is passed to the EWO.

The designated member of staff will be responsible for liaising with the LA education provider and will ensure that information is given regarding the pupil's ability, progress, and work programmes.

Wherever possible, work and materials will be provided for the pupil in accordance with their peers.

In cases of long-term or recurrent absence the designated member of staff will participate in the development of a Personal Education Plan (PEP) for the pupil. This will be written in conjunction with the LA, healthcare professionals, the parents/carers and the pupil.

4. Monitoring and recording of absence

All pupils who are unable to attend school for more than 15 school days due to medical needs will be regularly monitored and reviewed by the designated member of staff together with the LA representatives. Ongoing medical advice will be taken into account at all times.

Absence will be recorded on the register as medical (e.g. code M) only when appropriate medical advice has been received. When a pupil commences education with an alternative education provider the absence will be recorded as educated off site (e.g. code B). This is in accordance with the LA attendance policy.

Pupils absent for medical reasons will not be removed from the school roll unless advice is received from the School Medical Officer. Parents/carers will be fully consulted and their consent sought if their child is to be removed from the school roll in these circumstances.

5. Pupils with long-term or recurring absence

Some pupils will be away from school long-term or with recurrent bouts of illness. In these cases the designated member of staff will liaise with the LA to ensure that alternative education provision is put in place as soon as possible. The school will have responsibility for ensuring that the education provider has all information regarding work programmes and curriculum plans. It is acknowledged that continuity of education is important for these pupils. For pupils whose learning progress is being severely affected by long-term absence the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo) will be advised and consideration will be given as to whether Statutory Assessment of Special Educational Needs should commence.

6. Pupils with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)

These pupils may be able to access alternative educational provision through the LA – sometimes with assistance from specialist teaching services. The SENDCo will notify the Assessment and Placement Service if a pupil with an EHCP is going to be absent from school through medical need.

The school will retain responsibility for co-ordinating the Annual Review meetings and for inviting the appropriate people to such reviews.

7. Reintegration

For pupils who have been absent from school it may be necessary to have a staged reintegration plan. The designated member of staff will co-ordinate the initial meeting to instigate a plan, together with the LA, parent/carer, pupil, and any health professionals who may need to be involved.

The reintegration will be monitored and reviewed regularly with all parties to ensure success.

8. Contact between school/pupil

The New Forest Primary School is committed to ensuring that even if a pupil is absent for medical reasons they should retain contact with the school.

After consultation with the pupil, and taking into account their wishes in relation to the level of contact, the designated member of staff will put a plan into place to ensure contact is maintained.

The New Forest Primary School has the following modes of contact available:

- newsletters to be sent home
- peer group home visits
- inclusion in trips and social events
- contact with peers and members of staff via email

9. Public examinations

Wherever possible, pupils will be entered for public examinations. The New Forest Primary School will endeavour to work with other education providers to ensure that sufficient educational input is made to enable each pupil to reach their full potential.

In some cases the school may make special arrangements with awarding bodies for pupils who are unable to attend school because of their medical need.

As the time for public examination nears, pupils and parents/carers will be fully consulted by the designated member of staff so that their wishes may be taken into consideration.

10. Review

The governing board reviews this policy annually. The governors may, however, review the policy earlier if the government introduces new regulations, or if the governing board receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved.

Related policies:

- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Equality Policy
- Intimate Care Policy
- Medication Policy
- SEND Policy