

# St. Francis CE (Aided) Junior School



## **Children with health needs who cannot attend school Policy**

### Our Vision

Through our planned curriculum, enrichment activities and school ethos, we aspire to develop our children into responsible global citizens who will be able to enjoy fully our diverse world and have many choices and opportunities open to them.

We hope that by Year 7 our children are able to shine their light further into the community (rather than hiding it), while maintaining a strong sense of self-identity, valuing who they are and showing humility and endurance in lifelong learning.

We take inspiration from Matthew 5: 14-16:

<sup>4</sup> “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

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### 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.durham.gov.uk/article/2983/Support-for-children-with-health-needs>

### 3. The responsibilities of the school

Pupils may experience difficulties in maintaining continuity of education because of health or medical needs at some time during their time at St Francis CE (Aided) Junior School.

These issues may be short term such as a limb fracture or a long-term diagnosed medical condition, to which St Francis CE (Aided) Junior School needs to respond in order to ensure that all pupils access their statutory entitlement to education.

St Francis CE (Aided) Junior School is committed to promoting inclusion, equality of opportunity and continuity of education for pupils with health needs. This policy applies to pupils who are temporarily unable to attend school because of illness (including mental health problems) and injury.

#### 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. We will do this by:

- liaising with parents/carers and considering appropriate action that could include sending work home to ensure the child can continue with their learning.
- Refer to the LA Health Needs team - where the child is expected to be off school for a longer period of time from 3 weeks onwards. The health needs team will work with school to allocate a member of their teaching staff to attend the home to work with the child so they can be supported to continue with their learning. When ready

to return to school the staff member will work with school to reintegrate the child back.

The Headteacher and/or SENCO will be responsible for monitoring and arranging an appropriate reintegration following any absence.

### 3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Durham County Council will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

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 Pupil Outcomes Committee. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governing Body.

### 5. Links to other policies This policy links to the following policies:

Accessibility plan

Supporting pupils with medical conditions

Equality Policy