



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

**Policy reference no:** 034

**Date:** September 2025

**Person responsible for policy:** Stephen Dean, Chief Executive Officer

**Authorised by:** Board of Trustees

**Review date:** December 2026

This Policy applies to all schools within the Primary QuEST Multi-Academy Trust. Primary QuEST is a Church of England Trust which seeks to ensure all pupils flourish, together in a supportive and caring environment.

**Flourishing together through LIFE**

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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 – Gloucestershire.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

## **3. The responsibilities of the school**

### **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 class teacher, working alongside the SENDCo and Headteacher will be responsible for making and monitoring these arrangements

Use of an online system will be encouraged e.g. Class Dojo, Google Classrooms or Seesaw

Hospital Education will be explored if required

The school will work in partnership with parents / carers

The ultimate aim will be for the child to reintegrate back into school as soon as possible

### **3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements**

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Gloucestershire Local Authority 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 CEO of Primary QuEST. At every review, it will be approved by the full trust board.

#### **5. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

#### **6. Biblical Underpinning for Church of England schools**

Jesus in Luke 7. 1-10 encounters a centurion whose servant is ill at his home. How does Jesus react to a distant health need of someone who does not share his faith?

On the recommendation of those who are aware of the urgency of the health need, Jesus connects to the need. He reflects on all that is explained to him and responds appropriately. Jesus takes seriously the urgent request of the centurion. Back in the officer's house the servant recovers.

The school has a similar responsibility to be in touch with, and monitor, and support, children with health needs who cannot attend school. The school will continue to provide the best education they can give whilst the child is away from school. To do so is showing the 'command and control' faith of the centurion Jesus encountered.