

POLICY FOR CHILDREN WITH HEALTH NEEDS WHO CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL	
Last review date	December 2024
Review cycle	Annually
Responsible Officer:	Inclusion Assistant Principal
Version	2

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to demonstrate how Cambourne Village College (CamVC) meets the needs of its pupils with health needs in accordance with its statutory responsibilities and other duties.

This policy has been written with reference to the following guidance and documents:

- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2014
 - Part 3 of the Children’s and Families Act 2014
 - Equality Act 2010 and advice for schools 2013
 - Statutory Guidance on Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions at School 2014
 - Ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs’ (DfE, 2013)
 - ‘Mental health and behaviour in schools’ (DfE 2014, updated 2018)
 - ‘Pathway for secondary aged young people with medical and mental health needs’ (CCC, January 2018)
 - The Cam Academy Trust Framework for SEND Policies
 - CamVC SEND Policy
 - CamVC Safeguarding Policy
 - CamVC Disability Equality Scheme and Accessibility Plan, available on request from the SEN Department
 - East & South Cambridgeshire Behaviour & Attendance Improvement Partnership (ESCIP)
 - Medical Needs Policy and Statement
 - DfE Statutory Guidance for ‘Children who cannot attend school because of health needs’.
- To read the guidance, please [Click here](#)

Principles

This policy sets out the values and broader aims of the school’s arrangements for pupils with health needs. Cambourne Village College believes all children, regardless of their circumstances or educational setting, should receive a high-quality education. The college recognises it is important for children with health needs, who may miss time in school, to have regular contact with peers and the wider school community. Furthermore, it is essential that when it is possible, pupils should be supported in their return to school as consistency can aid recovery and improve educational experiences and outcomes.

The policy will be monitored for impact through the school’s Self Evaluation document, School and Department Development Plans, and parental and pupil feedback.

Curriculum

Where a pupil's health needs mean the child is no longer able to access mainstream lessons, the college will provide a high-quality alternative provision.

The needs of the individual child will be considered whether this may be related to their health, behavioural or SEMH needs. There will be a tailored approach which will ensure pupils have the best possible academic outcomes and, where possible, pupils can maintain continued contact with peers and enjoy the same opportunities as all in the school community.

Academic Progress

The college will ensure there is a structured approach, so the pupil has a clear pathway for academic progression and attainment.

The College will seek to provide a high-quality, broad, and balanced curriculum for pupils unable to access mainstream school, within the funding and resourcing constraints under which it operates.

The alternative provision will address the needs of the individual child and allow flexibility so any changing needs for the child can be responded to. Where pupils have additional needs or an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), the school will ensure lesson materials and resources are appropriately differentiated and the appropriate support is in place. Please refer to our SEND policy for more information.

The alternative provision aims to make effective use of technology to ensure online learners experience the very best of virtual classrooms. The college will ensure online learning packages support face-to-face contact, where possible.

Training and Resourcing

The college will ensure information regarding the needs of individual children is shared sensibly and stored securely. This will also include the details of any medication if required.

All staff at Cambourne Village College are aware some health issues may be considered disabilities and staff are aware they have a duty to eliminate discrimination and foster equality of opportunity for all.

Staff will work collaboratively with the Local Authority, hospitals, clinicians, school nurses, home tuition services and parents and carers to ensure the appropriate support is in place. Cambourne Village College recognises the importance of all pupils keeping up rather than having to catch up.

Pastoral Support and Well-being

If a pupil's health needs prevent attendance in school, a designated staff member will ensure there is regular communication with the pupil.

Throughout any period of school absence, pupils with health needs will retain access to school communications such as mailing lists; our online learning platform the CATalogue; MS Teams and any relevant school subscriptions.

Public Examinations

The school will follow the required procedures and notify awarding bodies when special arrangements are to be put in place for children with health needs.

Attendance

Where the particular health needs of a pupil prevents attendance in school for a period of longer than 15 school days, the school will ensure parents/carers and - wherever possible – pupils, are consulted in devising an individual support plan.

Where the child is unable to attend school, the pupil will not be removed from the school register without parental consent nor without a certificate from a medical officer.

If and when reintegration to school is anticipated, the school will work with all involved to ensure the education provision is consistent.

Complaints

Any complaints about the provision or pupils with health needs who cannot attend school, should initially be addressed to the Assistant Principal for Inclusion. Should the complaint not be resolved, parents should refer to the school Complaints Policy, available on the website. The parent of pupils with disabilities have the right to make complaints to the first-tier SEND tribunal if they believe that the school has discriminated against their child. Claims can be made regarding: - Exclusions - Provision of education and associated services - The making of reasonable adjustments, including the provision of auxiliary aids and services. Further details of the provision offered for SEND at Cambourne Village College can be found in the document: Cambourne Village College SEND Offer