



St Ann's School : Class Closure Policy

St Ann's School is proud to be a Unicef Gold Rights Respecting School. The school ethos and our daily practice actively promotes the implementation of all Articles within the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Article 3 (best interests of the child), Article 6 (survival and development) Article 23 (children with disability) and Article 24 (health and health services) are particularly pertinent to St Ann's Class Closure Policy.

St Ann's Governing Body and staff group are committed to ensuring that all students receive their legal entitlement of 190 days of education each academic year.

Research consistently shows that students who attend school regularly have the best opportunity to maximise and sustain their progress. St Ann's multi-professional team works in partnership with families to reduce barriers to attendance so that all students can capitalise on their educational entitlement.

Governors and staff are greatly appreciative of our families' endeavours to ensure their young person's attendance at St Ann's in spite of the numerous difficulties that they often face in doing so.

However, occasionally a situation may arise when it becomes necessary to temporarily close a class group (and not the entire school) in order to maintain health and safety requirements.

This may be because

- **All or the majority of the permanent staff team in the affected class are absent from school because of illness.**

If this arises it is likely that there are many other staff absent from other teams across the school and so it becomes impossible to provide familiar, experienced staff cover for the affected class.

- **Several students within the class group have an infectious condition eg diarrhoea and vomiting**

In this situation the school nursing service will advise the school if and when the best course of action is to temporarily close the class.

On the rare occasion when it becomes necessary for St Ann's to close a class :

- Parents/Carers will be given as much notice as possible and will be informed by Schoolcoms **and** a telephone call from a senior member of staff.
- Generally a class will only be closed for a period of one day
- The Local Authority and the Chair of the Governing Body will be informed by email of the school's decision to close a class group.

It may also be useful to read St Ann's Attendance Strategy Policy and St Ann's Home School Agreement which contain information related to the Class Closure Policy.

Policy reviewed: February 2022

Next Review: February 2023