

Shottery St Andrew's CE Primary School



This policy is underpinned by our school vision based on the scripture,
'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in
heaven.' Matthew 5:16

Alternative Provision Policy

Date adopted by Governors:	September 2026
Date for policy review:	September 2027
Person responsible for review:	SENDcO
Signed by Chair of Governors	<i>L. Hanelly</i>

Context

Shotton St Andrew's C of E Primary School recognises that there is a need to ensure that our curriculum and ethos is inclusive and accessible, providing opportunities for all our children to succeed. However, we also recognise that rarely, but sometimes, our school is not the right place for some children to flourish either on a part time, full time or temporary basis.

In order to offer an alternative, we work with a local provider to offer 'alternative provision' for struggling children to reach their potential in a school-based environment.

Objectives of the policy

- To outline why some pupils may be offered alternative provision.
- To ensure that the offer of alternative provision is offered in a consistent way.
- To provide guidance on the referral process and the suitability of providers.
- To ensure that there are suitable procedures in place relating to attendance and the safeguarding of the children.
- To outline arrangements made for keeping in touch with students ensuring we monitor academic progress, behaviour and pastoral welfare.

Reasons why we might offer alternative provision

- It is thought that the pupil is at risk of exclusion and that an alternative provision might prevent this.
- The pupil is not able to access the curriculum provided at Shotton St Andrew's Primary because of learning or emotional and social difficulties and that an alternative approach would re-motivate and engage the child.

Suitability of providers

We only use providers who are registered and approved and who have safeguarding policies in place.

What providers do we use?

We spend time deciding on a suitable provider and take advice from a number of sources to select the right place for our pupils. There are many factors to consider such as distance to travel, age range provided for, and activities on offer etc.

To date we have used:

Flourish at the Farm, Snitterfield, Warwickshire

This is an indoor/outdoor centre where pupils have opportunities to work with animals, cook outside, craft, develop forest school skills and build. The curriculum there is very practical and suited

to children who thrive on this approach. Children will typically attend for half a day per week. Children can attend as long as is suitable.

(All risk assessments and policies from Flourish at the Farm are shared with the school.)

The Referral Process

The school refers to the DfE publication: Alternative Provision: Statutory guidance January 2013 when referring children to alternative provision. This guidance forms an appendix to this policy.

Where a pupil is placed with an alternative provision provider, Shottery St Andrew's C of E Primary School remains responsible for the safeguarding and welfare of that pupil, who remains on the school's roll. The school or Local Authority may fund the placement, which forms part of the school's commitment to meeting pupils' individual needs and promoting inclusion. Parents/carers will be fully involved and consulted throughout the referral process.

Before the placement begins, the school will obtain written confirmation from the alternative provision provider that all appropriate safeguarding and safer recruitment checks have been completed on staff working with pupils, equivalent to those required by the school. The provider must also notify the school promptly of any changes to staffing or other arrangements that could affect the safeguarding of pupils, enabling the school to ensure that appropriate checks have been carried out.

Attendance at the alternative provision will be monitored closely. The provider is expected to notify the school immediately of any pupil absence, together with the reason, so that attendance can be recorded and followed up in line with the school's procedures. Any safeguarding concerns must be reported without delay to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), and the school will work closely with the alternative provider to ensure pupils remain safe and receive appropriate support.

Academic progress and pastoral welfare

There will be a detailed handover at the start of the placement when data, pupil characteristics and behaviour as well as objectives for the placement will be shared with the alternative provision. The pupil, whilst on placement, will be visited by school staff to ensure contact with the school and for staff to monitor the appropriateness of the placement. Regular liaison and updates will take place between the provider and school to ensure that the placement objectives are being achieved and that the placement still addresses the needs of the child. Where appropriate, pupils will continue to attend school functions and events and the provider will inform Shottery St Andrew's C of E Primary School of any significant events or incidents that happen whilst on placement.