



Policy on the education of Looked After Children

Morpeth First School staff and Governors believe that, in partnership with Northumberland County Council as Corporate Parents, we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children.

Aim

- To provide a safe and secure environment, where education is valued and there is a belief in the abilities and potential of all children.
- To support our Looked After Children and give them access to every opportunity to achieve to their full potential and enjoy learning.
- To fulfil the school role, as competently as possible.
- To ensure that all Looked After Children are considered for one to one tuition where available in school as part of their entitlement and where relevant, use Pupil Premium Plus funds within the school budget to support their achievement from the pupil premium.

In support of this Policy:

- There will be a designated member of staff for Looked After Children who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them
- There will be a nominated Governor for Looked After Children who will ensure that their needs are taken into account at a management level and support the Designated teacher
- Training will be offered, on a needs basis, to the designated persons.
- The school will work in partnership with the Virtual School in Northumberland to support the development/progress of Looked After Children at Morpeth First School

The Designated teacher will:

- Maintain an up to date record of all Looked After Children who are on the school role. The record will detail:
 - Status i.e. care order or accommodation
 - Type of placement i.e. foster, respite, residential etc.
 - Name of Social Worker
 - Daily contact numbers (located on our SIMS system)
 - SEND Code of Practice
 - Child protection information when appropriate
 - Baseline information and all test results
 - Attendance figures
 - Exclusions
- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child to include appropriate targets and above information. This will be compatible with the child's Care Plan and where appropriate will include any other school plans like Statement of Special Educational Needs etc.
- Complete the Pupil Premium Plus agreement (within the PEP) to ensure that maximum funding is acquired to support progress and achievement
- Ensure that the school is represented at Social Services reviews and that a report is provided for each meeting to promote the continuity and stability of their education.
- Liaise with the ESLAC team as required to support the performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children in school.
- Liaise with Northumberland's Virtual School for Looked After Children on a regular basis with regard to performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children.
- Ensure that if/when the child transfers to another school all relevant information is forwarded to the next school as a matter of urgency.
- Ensure that systems are in place to support under-achieving Looked After Children. This will be in line with the school's existing policy on early interventions.
- Ensure that staff are kept up to date on a 'need to know' basis.

- Ensure that Looked After Children, along with all children are listened to and have equal opportunity to pastoral support in school.
- Ensure that they keep staff up to date with current legislation and its implication for the school in respect of Looked after Children.
- Report to the Governing Body annually on the performance of Looked After Children.

All Governors and Staff will support the Local Authority in its statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of Looked After Children.

Review date: 2017 (or earlier if legislation impacts on the policy)

Signed _____ **Chair of Governors** **Date** _____