School policy on education of looked after children

Northumberland Virtual School for Looked After Children



Tweedmouth West First School believes that in partnership as corporate parents with Northumberland County Council 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 potential and enjoy learning.

To fulfil our schools' role as corporate parents to promote and support the education of our Looked After Children, by asking the question, 'Would this be good enough for my child?'

To ensure that Pupil Premium Plus is used effectively for maximum impact on individual looked after children's achievement.

IN PURSUIT OF THIS POLICY WE WILL

- Nominate a Designated teacher for Looked After Children who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them.

- Nominate a school governor to ensure that the needs of Looked After Children in the school are taken into account at a school management level and to support the Designated Teacher.

- Support the Designated teacher in carrying out their role by making time available and ensuring that they attend training on Looked After Children.

The Designated teacher will:

- Maintain an up to date record of all Looked After Children who are on the school roll. This will include:

    - Status i.e. care order or accommodated.
    - Type of Placement i.e. Foster, respite, residential.
    - Name of Social Worker, area office, telephone number.
    - Daily contact and numbers e.g. name of parent or carer or key worker in children's home.

- SEND
- 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/young person to include appropriate targets and above information. This must be compatible with the child's/young person's Care Plan and where applicable include any other school plan, e.g. Education Health and Care Plan and associated plans, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme.

- Complete the Pupil Premium Plus agreement (within the PEP) to ensure that maximum funding is acquired to support progress and achievement.

- Ensure that someone attends Children's Services Reviews on each child/young person and/or always prepares a written report which promotes the continuity and stability of their education.

- Liaise with the Virtual School's Education Support Service for Looked After Children (ESLAC) on a regular basis with regard to the performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children.

- Ensure that if/when the child transfers school all relevant information is forwarded to the receiving school as a matter of priority.

- Ensure that systems are in place to identify and prioritise when Looked After Children are underachieving and have early interventions to improve this in line with existing school policy.

- Ensure that systems are in place to keep staff up to date and informed about Looked After Children where and when appropriate.

- 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 the school 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 the looked after children who are on the roll of the school.

All governors and staff will:

- Support the local authority in its statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of looked after children