

Reviewed: April 2017

Policy on the Education of Looked After Children

Northumberland PRU staff and the Management Committee 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

In support of this Policy:

- work co operatively with the Virtual School for Looked After Children, contributing to data collection etc
- the nominated teacher for Looked After Children is Rachel Gomersall.
- Tom Dexter is the Deputy Teacher for LAC should the Designated Teacher be unavailable.
- the nominated Management Committee member for Looked After Children is Richard Bishop
- training will be offered, on a needs basis, to the designated persons

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
 - SEN 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 Educational, Health and Care Plans.
- ensure that the school is represented at Social Services reviews and that a report is provided for each meeting.
- liaise with Education Support Service for Looked After Children/Virtual School 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 prioritise support for under-achieving Looked After Children. This will be in line with the school's existing policy
- 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
- report to the Management Committee annually on the performance of Looked After Children

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

_____ **Chair**

_____ **Date**