



Morice Town Primary Children Looked After Policy

Looked After is a term that refers to children in the care of the Local Authority. This can happen either with parental agreement or when a Court makes a Care Order. The child may be living with foster carers, in a residential unit, with family members, and sometimes with their parents. Morice Town Primary recognises that Children Looked after may have very specific and varying needs.

Morice Town Primary's commitment:

The educational achievement of looked after children as a group remains unacceptably low. The Social Exclusion Unit had identified five key reasons why children in care underachieve in education

- too many young people's lives are characterised by instability
- young people in care spend too much time out of school or other place of learning
- children do not have sufficient help with their education if they get behind
- carers are not expected, or equipped, to provide sufficient support and encouragement at home for learning and development
- children in care need more help with their emotional, mental or physical health and wellbeing.

Morice Town Primary is committed to helping every child achieve the highest educational standards he or she possibly can. Children Looked after are a priority for admission to Morice Town Primary following the LA's admission criteria.

Action Plan

We are committed to enhancing the achievement and welfare of Children Looked After. We will ensure equal access to a broad and balanced education.

The named governor for Safeguarding is **Mrs Janice Carr**.

The Designated Teacher for CLA **Mrs Pauline Donnellon**.

Her role and responsibilities will include:

- Act as a resource and advocate for children in care.
- Record and monitor academic progress and attendance and report to the Virtual School Team.
- Monitor attendance and exclusions regularly and liaise with EWO/Exclusions Officer as appropriate.
- Maintain Personal Education Plans along with the child's social worker and review as part of the care review process.
- Promote good communication between all those involved in the child's life and ensure staff are aware of all relevant information.
- Liaise pro-actively with the Virtual School Team and Social Care Team.
- Take an active interest in the use of funding to support Children Looked After.
- Ensure that a member of staff attends care reviews, whenever possible
- Provide additional support for transition between schools/key stages and liaise with new designated teacher as required.
- Link with SENCO to ensure any Special Educational Needs are assessed on arrival and met.
- Encourage engagement in school clubs or activities and ensure participation in school trips and curriculum enhancement activities.

July 2020 to be reviewed at or before July 2023