

Looked After Children policy

Silver Birch School



Approved by Proprietor: Noel Thomas

Last reviewed on: September 2022

Next review due by: September 2023

Silver Birch School believes that we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children.

AIMS

- To provide a safe and secure environment, where education is valued and there is a belief in the abilities and potential of all young people.
- 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 to promote and support the education of our Looked After Children, by asking the question, 'Would this be good enough for my child?'

Silver Birch School will:

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

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
 - SEN Code of Practice – School Action/School Action Plus where appropriate
 - Child Protection information when appropriate
 - Baseline information and assessments
 - Attendance
 - Exclusions
- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan (PEP) for each child/young person to include appropriate targets and above information. This must be compatible with the young person's Care Plan and where applicable include any other school plan, e.g. Statement of Special Education Need, and associated plans, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme etc.
- Ensure that there is representation at Looked After Child reviews on each young person and prepares a written report which promotes the continuity and stability of their education
- Liaise with the Virtual School and LACES termly with regard to the performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children.
- Where appropriate, liaise with the Looked After Children nursing team and where required allow them to visit the young person in school for their looked after health reviews
- Ensure that if/when the young person 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

All staff will

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