



DESIGNATED TEACHER AND EDUCATION OF LOOKED-AFTER AND PREVIOUSLY LOOKED-AFTER CHILDREN POLICY

Status	Approved	Approval	FGB
Review frequency	Annual	Author (role)	Headteacher
Date first written	25 th November 2019	Date last approved	22 nd January 2026
Date of next review	January 2027	Date withdrawn	N/A

Rationale

At Foxhills Infant and Junior School we believe that, in partnership with Hampshire County Council, as Corporate Parents (and other Local Authorities as applicable), we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children and Previously 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 children.
- To support our Looked After Children and Previously 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 all of our Looked After Children, by asking the question, **'Would this be good enough for my child?'**

Definitions

Looked After Children (LAC)

Under the Children Act 1989, any reference to a child who is looked after by a local authority is a reference to a child who is:

- in their care; or
- provided with accommodation by the authority in the exercise of any functions (in particular those under this Act) which are social services functions within the meaning of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, apart from functions under sections 17, 23B and 24B.

"Accommodation" means that which is provided for a continuous period of more than 24 hours.

Previously Looked After Children (PLAC)

Previously looked-after children are those who:

- are no longer looked after by a local authority in England and Wales (as defined by the Children Act 1989 or Part 6 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014) because they are the subject of an adoption, special guardianship or child arrangements order; or
- were adopted from 'state care' outside England and Wales. 'State care' is care provided by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other organisation whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

Delivery

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. The Deputy Headteacher acts as the Designated Teacher for Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children at Foxhills Infant and Junior School.
- Nominate a school governor to ensure that the needs of all Looked After Children in the school are taken into account at a school management level and to support the Designated Teacher. The Designated Teacher Governor is Caroline Hubbard.
- 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.
- SEN Code of Practice – Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) or School Action where appropriate
- Child Protection information when appropriate.
- Baseline information and all assessment outcomes.
- 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. EHCP, and associated plans, Transition Plans and Pastoral Support Programmes.
- 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 Education Support Service for Looked After Children 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.