

LANGDON
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Children in Care Policy

Created Summer 2017

Agreed by the Governing Body 17.5.17

Due for review Spring 2019

At Langdon Primary School we believe that all Children in Care should have equitable access to excellent educational provision and achieve at a similar level to all Kent children.

We recognise that nationally there is considerable educational under achievement of children in residential and foster care, when compared with their peers.

All staff and governors are committed to ensuring improved educational life chances for Children in Care by ensuring that:

- staff are aware that being or becoming 'looked after' or being in care has a major impact on children's lives and that when considering children's learning and or behaviour, due consideration will be given to this;
- designated teachers and staff are aware of and enabled to carry out their responsibilities effectively with the full support of the head teacher;
- school staff and governors are aware of the DfE Statutory Guidance regarding the duty on local authorities to promote the educational achievement of Children in Care;
- there is a dedicated Governor to monitor the work of the school in supporting its Children in Care as a part of a larger group of vulnerable children;
- we contribute to the process whereby all Children in Care have a high quality Personal Educational Plan (PEP) in place within 20 days of starting our school. This will include SMART educational targets and will be linked to the child's Care Plan and any other plan resulting from the assessment of the child (Individual Education Plan, Pastoral Support Plan, Statement of Educational Need);
- following the writing of a PEP, any educational recommendations in that PEP will be adhered to by staff in order that any looked after child has the opportunity to achieve his or her targets;
- we encourage each looked after child to access out of hours learning activities realising the positive impact this could have on their self – esteem and learning ;
- we liaise with other agencies as appropriate in order to deliver the 5 outcomes set out in 'Every Child Matters'; 'Change for Children' so that each looked after child has the opportunity to achieve their full potential;
- we will send reports/ representatives to any review held for the child;
- we will forward appropriate documents, in a timely fashion, to any receiving school at point of transition where the receiving school is made known;
- we take a proactive approach in co-operating with, and supporting, the relevant Local Authority with regard to the education of Children in Care attending the school;
- the Headteacher, and designated teacher will be responsible for ensuring all staff are briefed on the regulations and practice outlined in this policy.

Training

We will attend Local Authority training regarding the roles and responsibilities involved in the education of Children in Care.