

Shanklin CE Primary School



LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN POLICY

Nationally, Looked After Children (LAC) significantly underachieve and are at greater risk of exclusion compared with their peers. Schools have a major part to play in ensuring that LAC are enabled to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy, achieve, make a positive contribution to society and achieve economic well-being, in line with Every Child Matters.

The aims of the school are to:

- ensure that school policies and procedures are followed for LAC as well as for all children
- ensure that all LAC have access to a broad and balanced curriculum
- provide a differentiated curriculum appropriate to the individual 's needs and ability
- ensure that carers and social workers of LAC are kept fully informed of their child's progress and attainment
- ensure that LAC are involved, where practical, in decisions affecting their future provision

Partnership with parents/carers and care workers

We firmly believe in developing a strong partnership with parents/carers and care workers to enable LAC to achieve their potential. There will be regular, planned review meetings to enable this partnership to work.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governing Body will:

- Identify a nominated Governor for LAC
- Ensure that all Governors are fully aware of the legal requirements and guidance on the education of LAC
- Ensure the school has an overview of the needs and progress of LAC
- Allocate resources to meet the needs of LAC
- Ensure the school's other policies and procedures support their needs
- Ensure that the school has a Designated Teacher, and that the Designated Teacher is enabled to carry out his or her responsibilities as below
- Support the Head Teacher, the Designated Teacher and other staff in ensuring that the needs of LAC are recognised and met

The Head Teacher will:

- Identify a Designated Teacher for LAC, whose role is set out below
- Ensure that procedures are in place to monitor the admission, progress, attendance and any exclusions of LAC and take action where attainment, behaviour or attendance is causing concern
- Report on the attainment, behaviour and attendance of LAC
- Ensure that staff in school receive relevant training and are aware of their responsibilities under this policy and related guidance.

The Designated Teacher will:

- Develop a strategy for LAC
- Be the named contact for colleagues and carers within the school community and for colleagues in children's services including social services and health
- Keep an up to date list of LAC in school and clearly establish who has parental responsibility

- Advocate on behalf of LAC with particular regard to issues such as school trips, fixed term exclusions, flexibility of procedures and communicating high expectations for LAC with both staff and the pupils themselves
- Develop knowledge of legislation relating to LAC and of Childrens' Services procedures through a variety of ways including attending multi-agency training
- Attend relevant training
- Inform staff and governors about up to date training
- Be aware that the specific needs of LAC should be communicated sensitively to appropriate staff - teaching and non-teaching
- Be aware that LAC should have an up to date, quality PEP (NB It is the Social Worker's responsibility to initiate this)
- Support the pupil in making a contribution to the PEP
- In conjunction with social workers, arrange education planning meetings for new admissions to school
- Liaise with the pupil's social worker, the school's designated governor and other relevant outside professionals
- Advise on systems, including recording of progress, to be put in place to support attendance and achievement
- Promote the involvement of LAC in school clubs and extra curricular activities
- Liaise with other designated teachers at transition times such as moving key stages or to a new school

All staff will:

- Have high aspirations for the educational and personal achievement of LAC, as for all pupils
- Maintain LAC's confidentiality and ensure they are supported sensitively

- Respond promptly to the Designated Teacher's requests for information
- Work to enable LAC to achieve stability and success within school
- Promote the self-esteem of all LAC
- Have an understanding of the key issues that affect the learning of LAC
- Be aware that 60% of LAC say they are bullied, so work to prevent bullying in line with the School's policy