



Derwent Vale Primary & Nursery School

Inclusion Policy for Children Looked After

Vision and Mission Statement

At Derwent Vale Primary & Nursery School we are committed to the high achievement of all our students. We cultivate success and foster the highest aspirations through excellent teaching.

We are a learning community which has high expectations and actively seeks to celebrate the good in every individual.

We inspire an enthusiasm for life-long learning and are committed to success for all.

AIMS

These are derived from the document 'The role and responsibilities of the designated teacher for looked after children: Statutory guidance for school governing bodies 2010'. (DCSF)

We aim to ensure for these pupils that:

- Education is a priority
- Our expectations of them are high
- We promote inclusion through challenging and changing attitudes
- We work with carers and other agencies to achieve stability and continuity
- We listen to children.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In order to support pupils in public care two measures have been introduced:

- There is a designated teacher
- Each looked after child has a personal education plan (PEP).

ROLE OF DESIGNATED TEACHER

The Designated Teacher is Mrs F Edmondson. She acts "as an advocate for the young people in public care, accessing services and support, and ensuring that the school shows and supports high expectations for them".

(DCSF)

The Designated Teacher will:

- Ensure a welcome and smooth induction for the child and their carer
- Ensure that Personal Education Plan is completed as soon as possible (and within 20 days of the pupil joining the school)
- Ensure that the Personal Education Plan and other records are kept up to date and available in time to inform review meetings
- Ensure that each pupil in public care has an identified member of staff that they can talk to
- Co-ordinate any support that is necessary within school
- Ensure confidentiality for individual pupils, sharing personal information on a need to know basis
- Ensure as far as possible attendance at planning and review meetings
- Set-up urgent meetings with relevant parties where the pupil is experiencing difficulties in school or is at risk of exclusion
- Ensure the speedy transfer of information between individuals, agencies and - if the pupil changes school - to a new school
- Report annually to the Governing Body.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL STAFF

All our staff will:

- Have high aspirations for the educational and personal achievement of young people in public care
- Ensure that all pupils in public care are supported sensitively
- Respond positively to a student's request to choose the named member of staff whom they can talk to when they feel it is necessary
- Respond promptly to the Designated Teacher's requests for information
- Work to enable pupils in public care to achieve stability and success within school
- Promote the self-esteem of all pupils in public care: maintain confidentiality: and ensuring that no child who is looked after is stigmatized in any way.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body will:

- Ensure that the school has a Designated Teacher, and that the Designated Teacher is enabled to carry out his or her responsibilities
- Ensure that the designated teacher undertakes appropriate training (section 20(2) of the 2008 Act).
- Support the Head, the Designated Teacher and other staff in ensuring that the needs of pupils in public care are recognised and met
- Ensure that all Governors are fully aware of the legal requirements and Guidance on the education of pupils in public care.
- Nominate a Governor to take a special interest in this area of the school's work. The nominated Governor is Mrs K Black.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NOMINATED GOVERNOR

The Nominated Governor will liaise with the Designated Teacher and report to the Governing Body on an annual basis:

- The number of looked after pupils in school (if any)
- Their attendance, as a discreet group, compared to other pupils
- Their SAT scores as a discreet group, compared to other pupils
- The number of fixed term and permanent exclusions (if any)
- The destinations of pupils who leave the school.

The information for this report will be collected and reported in ways that preserve the anonymity and respect the confidentiality of the pupils concerned.

The Nominated Governor will also ensure that the school's other policies and procedures give looked after children equal access in respect of:

- Admission to school
- The National Curriculum and public examinations
- Additional educational support where this is needed
- Extra curricular activities
- Work experience and careers guidance.