

Last Review	Oct 2020
Next Review	Oct 2021
Frequency	Annually
Governors	
Chair of Governors	Dave Wilkinson

Education of Children in Public Care

Children Looked After

The objectives of this policy

The Governing Body of Milton School is committed to providing quality education for all our pupils.

We recognise that, nationally, pupils in public care have significantly underachieved compared with their peers. We intend, through this policy, to promote the inclusion, well-being and achievement of looked after children¹ in Milton School

The role of the Designated Lead

The Designated Lead at Milton School is the Principal and the Safeguarding Officer, Carole Rouane.

The DfEE and DoH Guidance says that the Designated Lead should be “someone with sufficient authority to make things happen ... [who] should be an advocate for the young people in public care, accessing services and support, and ensuring that the school shares and supports high expectations for them.”

Our Designated Lead will:

- Ensure a welcome and smooth induction for the child and their carer.
- Ensure that an Individual Target Plan is completed as soon as possible.
- Ensure that the Individual Target 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. This need not be the Designated Lead, but should be based on the child's own wishes.
- Co-ordinate any support that is necessary within school.
- Ensure confidentiality for individual pupils, sharing personal information on a need to know basis.
- Encourage pupils in public care to join in extra-curricular activities and out of school learning.
- Ensure as far as possible attendance at planning and review meetings.
- Ensure that staff in school receive relevant training, and act as an advisor to staff and to Governors.
- Set up urgent meetings with relevant parties where the pupil is experiencing difficulties in school or is at risk of exclusion.

¹ The terms “pupils in public care” and “looked after children” are used interchangeably in this policy.

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 pupil's request to be the named member of staff whom they can talk to when they feel it is necessary.
- Respond promptly to the Designated Lead'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 in public care is stigmatized in any way.

Assessment Monitoring and Review Procedures

Each Looked After Child will have a Personal Education Plan (PEP). This will identify specific areas of concern and include achievable targets. Areas for consideration will be:

- Attendance
- Academic Progress and Achievements
- Behaviour
- Involvement in Extra Curricular Activities
- Special needs (If any)
- Development needs (short and long term development skills, knowledge or subject areas and experiences)
- Long term plans and aspirations (targets including progress, career plans and aspirations).

Looked After Children's information (such as their nominated social worker) is locked in the head Lead's office away from the main administrative office.

The social worker for the LAC should initiate a PEP- within 20 days of joining school, or of entering care, and ensure the young person is actively involved. It is vital that the school assesses each LAC's attainment on entry to ensure continuity of learning.

There will be an annual PEP meeting organised and chaired by the Social Worker. The setting up of the meetings and coordination of services is the sole

responsibility of the nominated social worker or in their absence the Local Authority for the student.

Any concerns about the Social Services involvement with the student will be sent via this officer.

Responsibility of the Governing Body

The Governing Body will:

- Ensure that the school has a Designated Lead, and that the Designated Lead is enabled to carry out his or her responsibilities.
- Support the Principal, the Designated Lead 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.

The Leadership team

Ensure that the progress of Looked After Children is monitored in line with whole school monitoring strategy.

Training

The Principal/ the Designated Lead/ the Staff Development Officer will ensure that all staff are briefed on the regulations and practice outlined in this policy.

Related policies

This policy forms part of the safeguarding policy.

- Admissions Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Safeguarding policy