



THE ARNEWOOD SCHOOL

11 – 19 Academy

ARN/0054

THE EDUCATION OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND PREVIOUSLY LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN POLICY

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES PROFORMA

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Amendments Summary:

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POLICY ON THE EDUCATION OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND PREVIOUSLY LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

1.0 The Arnewood School believes that, in partnership with Local Authorities as Corporate Parents, we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children.

2.0 AIM

2.1 To provide a safe and secure environment, where education is valued and there is a belief in the abilities and potential of all children.

2.2 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.

2.3 To fulfil our school's role as corporate parents to promote and support the education of our Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children, by asking the question, **'Would this be good enough for my child?'**

3.0 IN PURSUIT OF THIS POLICY WE WILL

- Nominate a Designated Teacher for Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them.
- Nominate a school governor to ensure that the needs of Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children in the school are considered at a school management level and to support the Designated Teacher.
- Support the Designated Teacher in carrying out their role by making time available and ensuring that they attend training on the best care and pedagogical approaches for Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children.

3.1 The Designated teacher will:

- Maintain an up-to-date record of all Looked After Children and Previously 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
 - Child Protection information when appropriate.
 - Baseline information and all test results.
 - Attendance figures
 - Exclusions
- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each Looked After Child, in line with each Local Authority's specific requirements. This must be compatible with the child's/young person's Care Plan and where applicable include any other school plan, e.g. Statement of Special Education Need, and associated plans, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme.

- Ensure there is a termly review and plan in place for each Previously Looked After Child, where agreement for this has been sought with parents and carers.
- Respect the wishes of parents and carers of Previously Looked After Children who wish to maintain a more informal relationship with the school.
- Ensure that, where possible they attend Children's Services Reviews on each child/young person and/or always prepare a written report which promotes the continuity and stability of their education.
- Liaise with the appropriate Virtual School for Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children on a regular basis with regard to the performance, attendance and attainment.
- Ensure that if/when the child changes school placement, 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 and Previously 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 and Previously Looked After Children where and when appropriate.
- Ensure that Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children are listened to and have equal access 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 and Previously Looked After Children.
- Report to the Governing body termly on the performance of the Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children who are on the roll of the school.
- Ensure that individual Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children have the opportunity and means to express their views and opinions in a safe and secure way and that they are actively encouraged to do this.
- Ensure that the views and opinions of Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children are considered and respected at a tutor group, year group and wider school level.
- Ensure that Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children are represented fairly and equitably in all areas of the school.

3.1 All governors and staff will:

- Support the local authority in its statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of looked after children.
- Support the Designated Teacher in their duties as outlined above.
- Support all Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children to achieve their potential.