



St Margaret's Anfield CE Primary School

NAME OF POLICY: Children Looked After Policy

DATE: January 2021

PRODUCED BY: R Crist

DOCUMENT STATUS

| Version | Date | Action | Review Date |
|-----------|------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Version 1 | January 21 | Adopted by Full Governing Body | |
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SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

“St Margaret’s Anfield CE Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment”.

AGREED BY GOVERNORS:

The Designated Teachers for Children Looked After are Mrs Crist and Miss Owens.

Introduction

Children Looked After (CLA) is one of the most vulnerable groups in society. The majority of Children Looked After have suffered abuse or neglect. It is nationally recognised that there is considerable educational underachievement when compared to their peers. This can result in poor exam success rates in comparison with the general population, with fewer Children Looked After progressing to Higher Education and following progression pathways, that will lead to future economic success and well-being. St Margaret’s Anfield CE Primary School is committed to enabling CLA to achieve their best possible outcomes.

The governing body is committed to providing quality education for all its pupils, based on equality of access, opportunity and outcomes. This policy includes requirements set out in “Statutory guidance on the duty on local authorities to promote the educational achievement of Children Looked After, under Section 52 of the Children Act 2004” (Nov 2005) and associated guidance on the education of CLA.

The term ‘in care’ refers only to children who are subject to a care order by the courts under section 31 of the Children Act 1989. They may live with foster carers, in a Children’s Home, in a residential school, with relatives, or with parents under supervision. Children who are cared for on a voluntary basis are ‘accommodated’ by the local authority under Section 20 of the Children Act – they may live in foster care, in a Children’s home or in a residential school.

All these groups are said to be ‘Children Looked After’ (CLA). They may be looked after by our local authority or may be in the care of another authority but living in Liverpool.

This aims of this policy are:

- To ensure that school policies and procedures are followed for Children Looked After as for all children
- To ensure that all Children Looked After have access to a broad and balanced curriculum
- To provide a differentiated curriculum appropriate to the individual’s needs and ability
- To ensure that Children Looked After pupils take as full a part as possible in all school activities



- To ensure that carers and social workers of Children Looked After pupils are kept fully informed of their child's progress and attainment, as well as their emotional and social well-being
- To ensure that Children Looked After pupils are involved, where practicable, in decisions affecting their future provision
- To arrange for appropriate adult/peer support to aid their settlement into school and ongoing progress throughout their time in our school.

Admissions

The Governing Body endorses council policy. Liverpool City Council, as the admission authority for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools, believes that admissions criteria should not discriminate against CLA pupils.

Due to care placement changes, CLA may enter school midterm. It is vital that we give them a positive welcome. If necessary we offer additional support and pre-entry visits to ease transition.

Monitoring Progress

The academic progress and emotional health and well-being of CLA pupils, will be monitored by classroom staff, SLT and the Designated Teacher, every half term. Appropriate feedback will be given to social workers and carers. Progress of the group as a whole will be monitored by SLT each term.

Designated teachers and/or classroom staff, will attend all Care Reviews, Care Planning Meetings and Personal Education Plan (PEP) Reviews and make written and verbal contributions as required.

Allocation of Resources

The Governing Body will ensure that the school allocates resources to support appropriate provision for CLA pupils, meeting the objectives set out in this policy.

We encourage staff to attend courses that help them to acquire the skills needed to support CLA.

Part of the Designated Teacher's role is to raise awareness of issues associated with CLA within the school and disseminate information.