



St Mary's Catholic School
Looked After Children policy

St Mary's Catholic School believes that in partnership with Newcastle City Council we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of all Looked After Children. We aim:

- to provide a safe and secure environment, where education is valued and there is a belief in the abilities and potential of all children.
- to support our looked after children and give them access to every opportunity to achieve to their potential and enjoy learning.
- to ensure the Student Premium Plus is used effectively for maximum impact on individual looked after children's achievement.

In pursuit of this policy we will:

- nominate a designated teacher(s) for Looked After Children who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them: Danielle Lague, James McDonald, James Turnbull and Stephen Tait.
- nominate a Governor to ensure that the needs of Looked After Children in the school are taken into account at a school management level and to support the Designated Teacher(s): Nicki Taylor.
- support the designated teacher(s) in carrying out their role by making time available and ensuring that they attend training on Looked After Children.

The Designated teacher(s) will:

- Maintain an up to date record of all 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.
 - SEND Code of Practice – Statement/SEND Support where appropriate.
 - Child Protection information when appropriate.
 - Baseline information and all test results.
 - Attendance figures.
 - Exclusions
- Ensure that there is a PEP for each child/young person to include appropriate targets and above information and this is reviewed every 6 months. 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 Needs.
- Ensure that someone attends Social Services Reviews on each child/young person and/or always prepares a written report which promotes the continuity and stability of their education.
- Liaise with the Education Support Service for Looked After Children on a regular basis with regard to the performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children.
- Ensure that if/when the child transfers school 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 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 LAC where and when appropriate.
- Ensure that LAC, along with all children are listened to and have equal opportunity 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.
- Report to the Governors annually on performance of the LAC who are on the roll of the school.
- Delegate Student Premium Plus funding for the child and ensure the support and interventions in place have a positive impact for that child.

All governors and staff will:

Support the local authority in its statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of looked after children.

Policy review date	By whom	Approved (insert date)
December 2015	FGB- Academy Directors	10/12/15

September 2019	FGB- Academy Directors	20/09/19
July 2021	Local Governing Committee	8/7/21