



## 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, Helen Latimer and Claire McKelvie.
- 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).
- 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)
September 2025	Local Governing Committee	10 <sup>th</sup> October 2025