Policy on the Education of Looked After Children & Young People

Swansfield Park Primary School

POLICY

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Swansfield Park Primary School believes that in partnership with Northumberland County Council as Corporate Parents we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children.

Aims

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

In pursuit of this policy we will

- Nominate a Designated teacher for Looked After Children in each school who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them.
- Nominate a federation governor to ensure that the needs of Looked After Children in the federation are taken into account at a management level and to support the Designated Teachers.
- Support the Designated teachers in carrying out their role by making time available and ensuring that they attend training on Looked After Children.

The Designated teachers 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.
  - SEN Code of Practice – School Action/School Action Plus where appropriate
  - Child Protection information when appropriate.
  - Baseline information and all test results.
  - Attendance figures
  - Exclusions
- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child/young person to include appropriate targets and above information. This must be compatible with the child's/young person's Care Plan and where applicable include any other school plan, e.g. Education, Health & Care Plan, Statement of Special Educational Need, and associated plans, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme.
- 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 Looked After Children where and when appropriate.
- Ensure that Looked After Children, 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 Looked After Children.
- Report to the Governing body termly on the performance of the looked after children who are on the roll of the school.

All governors and staff will:

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

Review of the Policy

This policy has been formally adopted by the governing body.

VERSION HISTORY		
VERSION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
Initially adopted	November 2014	Adapted into Swansfield Park First School
This Review	May 27 May 2016	Adapted into Swansfield Park Primary School

APPROVAL AND AUTHORISATION				
	NAME	JOB TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE
Approved by	Jenny Smith	Headteacher		27 May 2016
Approved by	Bill Grisdale	Governor		27 May 2016

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW	November 2017