

White Laith School Policy for 'Children in Public Care' (CLA)

Agreed by Governors: October 2022

Review date: October 2025

At White Laith School we believe that as Corporate Parents we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Children in Public Care. These are children who are looked after by the local authority. (Children and Young People in Care, (2004) Section 3, 3.1)

Safeguarding

At White Laith we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by or invited to deliver services at White Laith. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

We also exercise this responsibility by educating our children so that they grow in their understanding of their rights and responsibilities to themselves and others, in safety consciousness, and, in their maturity and abilities to keep themselves and others safe.

We perceive this to be part of our role in promoting British values

Our Aim

To provide a safe and secure environment, which values education and believes in the abilities and potential of all children.

Identifying our schools' role as corporate parents to promote and support the Education of our Children in Public Care.

Asking the question, '**Would this be good enough for my child?**'

In pursuit of this policy we will

Designate a Nominated teacher, Mrs Rebecca Drinkall, for Children in Public Care who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them. The nominated teacher will:

- Maintain a register of all Looked After Children.

This will include a record of:

1. Status i.e. care order or accommodated.
2. Type of Placement e.g. foster, respite, residential.
3. Name of Social Worker, area office, telephone number.
4. Daily contact and telephone numbers e.g. name of parent or carer.
- 5 Child Protection information when appropriate.

- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child to include appropriate targets.

This must be compatible with the child's Social Services Care Plan and form part of any other school plan. e.g. Statement, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme.

- Ensure that someone attends Social Services Reviews on each child and/or always prepares a written report that promotes the continuity and stability of their education.
- Ensure that on admission or transfer all relevant information is obtained at the outset.
- Ensure that systems are in place to identify and prioritise when Children in Public Care are underachieving and have early interventions to improve this.
- Ensure that systems are in place to keep staff up to date and informed about Children in Public Care.
- Ensure that Children in Public Care are listened to and have access to support and counselling in school.

All Governors and staff will:

- Work in partnership with parents and agencies.
- Support carers to value educational achievement and improve attendance.
- Celebrate the achievements of CiPC.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The nominated teacher will prepare a yearly report for Governors on the achievements of Children in Public Care. This will include, where age appropriate: SATS results, attendance figures, exclusion issues, change in home placements, reviews and interventions to raise achievement. This will also include intervention strategies such as study support, learning mentor support, home school contracts, Pastoral Support Plans, referrals to Pupil Support Centres, counselling support etc.