



Christ Church CE Primary School

SCHOOL POLICY ON THE EDUCATION OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Vision

"As God loves us all, our vision at Christ Church is for everyone in our family to feel equal, valued and prepared for life in modern British society. While walking humbly with our God, our children will become wise, compassionate, independent and resilient learners in an inclusive and safe environment. We strive for success, spiritual fulfilment and a life lived 'in all its fullness'.

Believe and Achieve!"

Book of Micah: Verse 6:8

What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Mission

Serving God's Community

In developing a greater understanding of Christian and other faiths within the community, we seek to develop the personality and potential of all, and to understand that we are created equally by God.

We are committed to providing an outstanding education to prepare our children for adult life in modern Britain in our locality by living in harmony before God.

By developing the social, moral and cultural and spiritual dimensions of pupils the school seeks to equip them to make a positive contribution to the community.

In finding time to be still and reflect, we seek to foster spirituality and a deeper relationship with God.

How does our LAC Policy link with our vision?

At Christ Church we commit to making it our mission to promote resilience, positive behaviour, and wellbeing for all our pupils. We believe children are unique before God and should be given the opportunity to be looked after and catered for the individual emotional, moral and spiritual need.

Our LAC policy follows Jesus's example of being merciful and he invites us all to do the same, showing what our hearts are like towards others. We must try freely and willingly show compassion and kindness to others. This is shown by valuing each other by forgiving freely, and reaching out to others without expecting anything in return.

Although we emphasise forgiveness through our values and our Bible verse, we also encourage restorative justice. We believe restorative justice empowers students to resolve conflicts on their own and in small groups. The idea is to bring children together in peer-mediated small groups to talk, ask questions, and air their grievances and then they willingly forgive through their own choice.

At Christ Church we teach children about acting justly, this means living your life with a sense of right and wrong; doing the right thing, at the right time. God is summoning us to eliminate any unjust actions or thoughts of injustice. We need to see others as God does – deserving dignity, respect, love, care and being treated as equals. We are all made in God's image.

We believe LAC children should flourish no matter what their background, faith or ability. We want our children to be resilient and healthy ambassadors of God in our modern society and we aim to nurture well-rounded, respectful and confident children.

Christ Church CE Primary School believes that in partnership with Birmingham City Council as Corporate Parents we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children.

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 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?**'

Who are Looked After Children?

The term 'looked after' originates from the Children Act 1989 and is the legal term for children in care. You may also hear the terms 'children in public care' or 'children who are looked after'.

A child is looked after under the following circumstances:

- The child is in accommodation commissioned and provided by the Local Authority for more than 24 hours.
- The child is the subject of an Emergency Protection Order, Interim Care Order or Care Order either living at home or placed away from home with relatives, friends or local authority carers.
- The child is remanded to Local Authority Care
- The child is subject to a Secure Order under the Children Act 1989.
- The child is placed for adoption but the adoption order has not been made
- The child is an unaccompanied minor.
- The child is in receipt of a series of Short Term Breaks as part of a Family Support plan for periods of 24 hours or more. (These children are only looked after for the time that they are placed away from home and do not need to be on your register of Looked After Children; nor do they need Personal Education Plans.)

IN PURSUIT OF THIS POLICY WE WILL

- Nominate a Designated teacher for Looked After Children who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them. Mr N Whitehouse

- Nominate a school 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.
- Support the Designated teacher in carrying out their role by making time available and ensuring that they attend training on Looked After Children.

The Designated teacher 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 – SEND Support/EHCP 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 to include appropriate targets and above information. This must be compatible with the child's Care Plan and where applicable include any other school plan, e.g. Statement of Special Education Need and associated plans.
- Ensure that someone attends Children's Services Reviews on each child 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 Pupil Premium is spent appropriately to raise educational attainment and an accurate record is kept.

- Liaise with the Virtual School for LAC and LACES termly with regard to the performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children.
- 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 the school in respect of Looked After Children.
- Report to the Governing body annually 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

Approved Governing Body December 2017

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