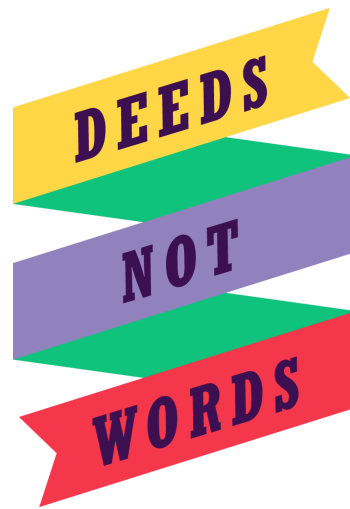




EMILY DAVISON SCHOOL

CHILDREN IN CARE POLICY



Date Created	November 2023
Date of Review	November 2024
Headteacher	Michael Hutchison
Chair of Governors	David Harrison



Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is of paramount importance and is everyone's responsibility.

It is the responsibility of every member of staff, volunteer and regular visitor to our school to ensure that they carry out the requirements of this policy and, at all times, work in a way that will safeguard and promote the welfare of all of the pupils at this school. This includes the responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can learn.

We recognise that staff at our school play a particularly important role as they are in a position to identify concerns early and provide help for children to prevent concerns from escalating. **All staff are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned.** When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff members must always act in the **best interests** of the child.

Our school will establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, are listened to and are safe. Children will be able to talk freely to any member of staff at our school if they are worried or concerned about something.

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 full potential and enjoy learning
- to fulfill the school role, as competently as possible

In support of this Policy:

- work cooperatively with the Virtual School for Looked After Children, contributing to data collection etc
- The nominated teacher for Looked After Children is Cath Taylor.
- training will be offered, on a needs basis, to the designated persons

The Designated teacher will:

Maintain an up to date record of all Looked After Children who are on the school role. The record will detail:



- status i.e. care order or accommodation
- type of placement i.e. foster, respite, residential etc
- name of Social Worker
- daily contact numbers
- SEN Code of Practice
- Child Protection information when appropriate
- baseline information and all test results
- attendance figures
- exclusions/suspensions
- ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child to include appropriate targets and above information. This will be compatible with the child's Care Plan and where appropriate will include any other school plans like Educational, Health and Care Plans.
- ensure that the school is represented at Social Services reviews and that a report is provided for each meeting
- liaise with Education Support Service for Looked After Children/Virtual School on a regular basis with regard to performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children
- ensure that if/when the child transfers to another school all relevant information is forwarded to the next school as a matter of urgency
- ensure that systems are in place to prioritise support for under-achieving Looked After Children. This will be in line with the school's existing policy
- ensure that staff are kept up to date on a 'need to know' basis
- 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 staff up to date with current legislation
- report to the Management Committee annually on the performance of Looked After Children

All Management Committee members and Staff will support the Local Authority in its statutory duty

to promote the educational achievement of Looked After Children.