



EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN CARE POLICY

At Croft C.E Primary School, we believe we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of children in care, in partnership with Leicestershire County Council or other local authorities as corporate parents.

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 children in care and give them access to every opportunity to achieve their potential and enjoy their learning.

To fulfil our school's role as corporate parents in promoting and supporting the education of our children in care, by asking the question: **"Would this be good enough for my child?"**

IN PURSUIT OF THIS POLICY WE WILL:

- Nominate a Designated Teacher for Children in Care who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them.
- Nominate a school governor to ensure the needs of children in care at the school are taken into account at a school management level and to support the Designated Teacher.
- Support the Designated Teacher in carrying out his/her role by making time available and ensuring s/he attends training about children in care.

The Designated Teacher will:

- Maintain an up to date record of all children in care who are on the school roll. This will include:
 - status i.e. care order or accommodated
 - type of placement i.e. foster (long/short term), respite, residential
 - name and contact details of carer and parent(s) if appropriate
 - details of any SEND
 - child protection information where appropriate
 - baseline information and test results
 - attendance figures
 - information about exclusions
- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child/young person, to include appropriate targets and the above information. This must be compatible with the child's Care Plan and where applicable, include any other plan e.g. Education, Health and Care Plan, Individual Education Plan, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme.
- Ensure a member of staff attends Review of Arrangement meetings about each child and/or prepares a written report which promotes the continuity and stability of their education.
- Liaise with the Education of Children in Care Service on a regular basis about the attainment, progress, emotional well-being and attendance of children in care.
- Ensure that if/when the child transfers school, all relevant information is forwarded to the receiving school as a matter of priority.
- Ensure systems are in place for the early identification of concerns about the progress or learning needs of children in care and the implementation measures to address this, in line with existing school policy.
- Ensure systems are in place to keep staff up to date and well informed about the children in care at school where and when appropriate.
- Ensure all staff understand the impact of attachment difficulties and trauma on children's social and emotional development, mental health and learning, and how to address these needs.
- Ensure children in care, along with all children, are listened to and have equal opportunities to access pastoral support in school.
- Ensure they keep the school up to date with current legislation and the implications for the school in relation to children in care.
- Report to the governing body annually on the performance of the children in care on the school's roll.

All governors and staff will:

- Support the local authority in its statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of children in care.

Written: November 2017

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