



St Michael's CE Primary School

Children Looked After (LAC) and Post Looked After (PLAC)



St Michael's CE Primary School is committed to providing quality education for all its pupils, based on equality of opportunity, access and outcomes.

We recognise that children who are or have been looked after in local authority care have the same rights as all children but may have additional needs due to attachment issues, early neglect, separation and loss, trauma and many placement moves. These barriers to learning can affect their educational outcomes and their personal, social and emotional development.

There is a statutory requirement for all schools to have a designated teacher (DT) for looked after and post looked after children. Our designated teacher is Mrs Karen Ayres. The responsibilities of our designated teacher include:

- Monitoring the progress of children who are 'looked after' or 'Post Looked After' to ensure that they have the best life chances possible and access to the full range of opportunities in school.
- Ensuring that children who are 'looked after' or 'Post Looked After' have access to the appropriate network of support.
- Checking that the statutory Personal Education Plan (PEP) has been arranged and that it is regularly reviewed, at least every six months.
- Ensuring that information concerning the education of children who are 'looked after' is transferred between agencies and individuals.
- Preparing a report on the child's educational progress to contribute towards the statutory review. (These are usually held at six monthly intervals or more frequently if there is a concern)
- Discussing feedback from the statutory review (chaired by the Independent Reviewing Officer) with social workers and, where necessary, the carers and a member of the Virtual School team.
- Liaising with the child's social worker to ensure that there is effective communication at all times.
- Liaising with parents and carers of children 'Post Looked After' to best support these children in school and with wider issues. Tracking progress and meeting on a regular basis with parents/carers to report back and discuss the child's progress and wellbeing.
- Celebrating the child's successes and acknowledge the progress they are making.

Our school will work closely with the Local Authority's Virtual School for Children, which promotes the educational needs of Children Looked After and Post Looked After and monitors admissions, PEP completion, attendance and exclusions.