

Children Looked After Policy

Author: AM Thompson
Date: December 2016

Sponsored by



SCHOOLSCOMPANY

GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

SchoolsCompany is a trading name used by The SchoolsCompany Trust,
registered in England and Wales, company number 08304460
Registered office: 1st Floor Holborn Gate, 330 High Holborn, London WC1V 7QT.
VAT registered number: GB 220 9017 47

GOODWIN ACADEMY
MILL ROAD
DEAL
KENT CT14 9BD

T: 01304 373 363
F: 01304 380 769
E: ADMIN@GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

Nationally, Looked-After Children significantly underachieve and are at greater risk of exclusion compared with their peers. We have a major part to play in ensuring that Looked-After Children are enabled to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy, achieve, make a positive contribution to society and achieve economic well being, in line with Every Child Matters.

Helping Looked-After Children succeed and providing a better future for them is a key priority for Kent County Council and Kent schools. This policy takes account of its duty, under Section 52 of the Children Act 2004, to promote the educational achievement of Looked-After Children (LAC) and The Education (Admission of Looked After Children) (England) Regulations 2006.

Goodwin Academy's approach to supporting the educational achievement of Looked-After Children is based on the following principles:

- prioritising education
- promoting attendance
- targeting support
- having high expectations
- promoting inclusion through challenging and changing attitudes
- achieving stability and continuity
- early intervention and priority action
- listening to children
- promoting health and wellbeing
- reducing exclusions and promoting stability
- working in partnership with carers, social workers and other professionals

As for all our students, Goodwin Academy is committed to helping every Looked-After Child to achieve the highest standards they can, including supporting aspirations to achieve in further and higher education. This can be measured by improvement in their achievements and attendance.

This policy links with a number of other school policies and it is important that Governors have regard to the needs of Looked-After Children when reviewing them:

- Admissions
- Behaviour
- Home School Agreement
- Anti-bullying
- General Equality Scheme and Action Plan
- Race Equality Scheme and Action Plan
- Child Protection
- Additional Educational Needs

The school will champion the needs of Looked-After Children, raise awareness and challenge negative stereotypes about them, in order to ensure that they achieve to the highest level possible.

Sponsored by



SCHOOLSCOMPANY

GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

SchoolsCompany is a trading name used by The SchoolsCompany Trust, registered in England and Wales, company number 08304460
Registered office: 1st Floor Holborn Gate, 330 High Holborn, London WC1V 7QT.
VAT registered number: GB 220 9017 47

GOODWIN ACADEMY
MILL ROAD
DEAL
KENT CT14 9BD

T: 01304 373 363
F: 01304 380 769
E: ADMIN@GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Principal will:

Identify a Delegated Teacher to co-ordinate the provision for Looked-After Children.

Ensure that procedures are in place to monitor the admission, progress, attendance and any exclusion of Looked-After Children and take action where progress, conduct or attendance is below expectations.

Report on the progress, attendance and conduct of Looked-After Children. OFSTED now select a number of Looked-After Children, tracking their results and the support they have received.

Ensure that staff in school receive relevant training and are aware of their responsibilities under this policy and related guidance.

The Governing Body will:

Identify a nominated Governor for Looked After Children.

Ensure that all Governors are fully aware of the legal requirements and guidance on the education of Looked-After Children.

Ensure the college has an overview of the needs and progress of Looked After Children, monitoring the academic progress of Local After Children, through an annual report.

Allocate resources to meet the needs of Looked-After Children.

Ensure the school's other policies and procedures support their needs.

Ensure that Looked After Children are given top priority when applying for places in accordance with the college's admissions criteria.

Work to prevent exclusions and reduce time out of school, by not excluding them except as a last resort.

Receive a report once a year setting out:

- The number of looked-after pupils on the school's roll (if any).
- Their attendance, as a discreet group, compared to other pupils.
- Their SAT scores, GCSE results, and other qualifications achieved, as a discreet group, compared to other pupils.

Sponsored by



SCHOOLS COMPANY

GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

SchoolsCompany is a trading name used by The SchoolsCompany Trust, registered in England and Wales, company number 08304460. Registered office: 1st Floor Holborn Gate, 330 High Holborn, London WC1V 7QT. VAT registered number: GB 220 9017 47

GOODWIN ACADEMY
MILL ROAD
DEAL
KENT CT14 9BD

T: 01304 373 363
F: 01304 380 769
E: ADMIN@GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

- The number of fixed term and permanent exclusions (if any).
- The destinations of pupils who leave the school.
- The information for this report should be collected and reported in ways that preserve the anonymity and respect the confidentiality of the pupils concerned.

The designated teacher will:

Ensure a welcome and smooth induction for the child and their carer, using the Personal Education Plan to plan for that transition in consultation with the child's social worker.

Ensure that a Personal Education Plan is completed with the child, the social worker, the foster carer and any other relevant people, at least two weeks before the Care Plan reviews.

Ensure that each Looked-After Child has an identified member of staff that they can talk to. This need not be the Designated Teacher, but should be based on the child's own wishes. Members of staff who take on this role may need to be supported by someone from the school's pastoral staff. They should also be alert to any child protection issues, any disclosures that pupils may make, and know what action to take. They should link closely therefore with the school's Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

Track academic progress and target support appropriately and co-ordinate any support for the Looked After Children that is necessary within school.

Ensure confidentiality for individual pupils, sharing personal information on a need to know basis.

Encourage Looked-After Children to join in extra-curricular activities and out of school learning.

Ensure, as far as possible, attendance at planning and review meetings.

Act as an advisor to staff and Governors, raising their awareness of the needs of Looked-After Children.

Set up timely meetings with relevant parties where the pupil is experiencing difficulties in school or is at risk of exclusion.

Ensure the speedy transfer of information between individuals, agencies and – if the student changes school – to a new school.

Be pro-active in supporting transition and planning when moving to a new phase in education.

Promote inclusion in all areas of school life.

Be aware that 60% of Looked After Children say they are bullied, so will actively monitor and prevent bullying in school by raising awareness through the school's anti-bullying policy.

Sponsored by



SCHOOLS COMPANY

GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

SchoolsCompany is a trading name used by The SchoolsCompany Trust, registered in England and Wales, company number 08304460. Registered office: 1st Floor Holborn Gate, 330 High Holborn, London WC1V 7QT. VAT registered number: GB 220 9017 47

GOODWIN ACADEMY
MILL ROAD
DEAL
KENT CT14 9BD

T: 01304 373 363
F: 01304 380 769
E: ADMIN@GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

Ensure that the audit on attendance and numbers is returned to the LAC Education Adviser every Term.

Raise awareness in secondary schools that Looked-After Children are automatically entitled to an allowance if they go into the sixth form.

Responsibilities of all staff:

Have high aspirations for the educational and personal achievement of Looked-After Children and to promote their self-esteem.

Maintain Looked-After Children's confidentiality and ensure they are supported sensitively.

Respond positively to a student's request to be the named member of staff whom they can talk to when they feel it is necessary.

Respond promptly to the Designated Teacher's requests for information.

Work to enable Looked-After Children to achieve stability and success within school.

Have an understanding of the key issues that affect the learning of Looked-After Children.

Be aware that 60% of Looked After Children say they are bullied so work to prevent bullying in line with the School's policy.

This policy was agreed and adopted at a Governors' Meeting held on date:

Signed:Principal

Date.....

Signed:Chair of governors

Date.....

Sponsored by



SCHOOLS COMPANY

GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK

SchoolsCompany is a trading name used by The SchoolsCompany Trust,
registered in England and Wales, company number 08304460
Registered office: 1st Floor Holborn Gate, 330 High Holborn, London WC1V 7QT.
VAT registered number: GB 220 9017 47

GOODWIN ACADEMY
MILL ROAD
DEAL
KENT CT14 9BD

T: 01304 373 363
F: 01304 380 769
E: ADMIN@GOODWINACADEMY.ORG.UK