

St. Joseph's Catholic School & Sixth Form Centre

Ysgol Gatholig San Joseff

Policy for the Education of Children who are Looked After



Policy agreed by Governors:

Signed by Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Bellinger', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Date: 10/07/2024

POLICY FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WHO ARE LOOKED AFTER

St Joseph's Comprehensive School believes that in partnership with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, as Corporate Parents we have a duty to safeguard and promote the education of Children who are Looked After.

Aim:

- To provide a safe and secure environment, where there is belief in the abilities and potential of all children.
- To support Children who are Looked After and give them equal access to every opportunity to achieve their potential and to enjoy learning.
- To fulfil our schools' role as corporate parent, to promote and support the education of Children who are Looked After.
- To ensure that all school policies and procedures are inclusive to and followed for Children who are Looked After.

The Head Teacher Will:

- Nominate a designated teacher for Children who are Looked After who will act as an advocate and co-ordinate support. The Designated Teacher with responsibility for Children who are Looked After is: **Mrs Debbie Evans**.
- Ensure that a school governor is nominated to oversee that the needs of Children who are Looked After in the school are taken into account at a school management level and to support the designated teacher. The Designated Governor with responsibility for Looked After Children is: Kathryn Torrance.
- Arrange time out for the designated teacher to attend training and statutory review meetings. Ensure that the NAFW Guidance 2/2001 is incorporated into school policy.
- Adhere to the Local Authority's school admissions policy.

The Designated Teacher will:

- Maintain an up to date record of all pupils who are looked after on the school roll.
- Track and monitor progress of individual pupils who are looked after.
- Ensure educational information is transferred speedily between agencies, new schools and individuals.
- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child pupil who is looked after, to include appropriate targets.
- Ensure the school shares and supports high expectations for Children who are Looked After.
- Ensure a culture of positive collaboration is fostered. Where communication difficulties arise with social workers or foster carers, contact will be made with the Education Coordinator for Children who are Looked After.
- Ensure that Children who are Looked After, along with all children, are listened to and have equal opportunity to pastoral support in school.
- Ensure the child's educational needs are identified in consultation with his/her teachers in order to address them by setting realistic challenges and academic targets.
- Ensure the school is represented at CLA reviews and/or the schools' consultation document is completed and returned to the Independent Reviewing Officer.
- Ensure any issues arising that might threaten the school placement are addressed without delay. All steps should be taken to prevent exclusion.

School staff and Governors will:

- Support the Local Authority in its statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of pupils who are looked after.