

Colmers Farm Primary School's

Education of Children in Care Policy



Rights Respecting Schools' Article/s

A3: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

A12: Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.

A29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

Colmers Farm Primary School Education of Children in Care

Colmers Farm Primary School believes that in partnership with Birmingham Children's Trust as Corporate Parents we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of children in care (CIC).

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

To fulfil our schools' role as corporate parents to promote and support 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.

The Designated Teacher is Mrs Louise Evans

- Nominate a school governor to ensure that the needs of children in care in the school are taken into account at a school management level and to support the Designated Teacher.

The school governor is Louise O'Brien

- Support the Designated Teacher in carrying out their role by making time available and ensuring that they attend training on 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, respite, residential.
 - Name of social worker, email, telephone number.
 - Daily contact and numbers e.g. name of parent or carer or key worker in children's home.
 - SEND / EHCP
 - Baseline information and all test results.
 - Attendance figures
 - Exclusions
- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan (PEP) for each child/young person to include appropriate targets and above information. This must be compatible with the child's/young person's care plan and where applicable include any other school plan, e.g. EHCP and associated plans, transition plan.
- Ensure that PP+ is spent appropriately to raise educational attainment and an accurate record is kept.

- Ensure that someone attends Children in Care Reviews on each child/young person and/or always prepares a written report which promotes the continuity and stability of their education.
- Liaise with the Birmingham Virtual School and any other relevant Virtual Schools termly with regard to the performance, attendance and attainment 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 that systems are in place to identify and prioritise when children in care are underachieving and have early interventions to improve this in line with existing school policy.
- Ensure that systems are in place to keep staff up to date and informed about children in care where and when appropriate.
- Ensure that children in care, along with all children are listened to and have equal opportunity to pastoral support in school.
- Ensure that they keep the school up to date with current legislation and its implication for the school in respect of children in care.
- Report to the Governing Body annually on the performance of the children in care who are on the roll of the school.

All governors and staff will:

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

Date Created – September 2020

By – L.Evans

To be reviewed – As required