June 2019

GREENHAUGH FIRST SCHOOL

POLICY ON THE EDUCATION OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (Designated Teacher Policy)

Greenhaugh First School believes that in partnership with Northumberland County Council as Corporate Parents we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children (LAC).

Who are our Looked After Children?
Children and young people become 'Looked After' either if they have been taken into Care by the Local Authority, either via a legal route under The Children's Act 1989 or where a voluntary agreement has been reached with the birth family. Most LAC will be living in foster homes but a smaller number may be in a children's home, living with a relative or even be placed back at home with their birth family.

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 looked after children and give them access to every opportunity to achieve to their potential and enjoy learning.

To support the education of our Looked After Children, by asking the question, 'Would this be good enough for my child?'

In pursuit of this policy we will:

- Nominate a Designated teacher for Looked After Children who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them.
- Nominate a school governor to ensure that the needs of Looked After Children in the school are taken into account at a school management level and to support the Designated Teacher.
- Support the Designated teacher in carrying out their role by making time available and ensuring that they attend training on Looked After Children.

Nominated Persons at Greenhaugh First School

- **Mrs Amanda P Taylor is our Designated Teacher for Looked After Children**
- **Mrs Jenni Holland is our named Governor for Looked After Children**

The Designated teacher will:

- Maintain an up to date record of all Looked After Children 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, area office, telephone number.

- Daily contact and numbers e.g. name of parent or carer or key worker in children's home.
- SEND Code of Practice – SEND Support
- Child Protection information when appropriate.
- Baseline information and all test results.
- Attendance figures
- Exclusions

- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan 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. Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), and associated plans, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme.

- Ensure that a teacher nominated by the Headteacher attends Children's Services 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 Education Support Service for Looked After Children on a regular basis with regard to the performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children.

- 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 Looked After Children 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 Looked After Children where and when appropriate.

- Ensure that Looked After Children, 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 Looked After Children.

- Report to the Governing body annually on the performance of the looked after children 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 looked after children

This policy will be reviewed **every two years**.

Signed: ……. Amanda P Taylor (Headteacher)

Signed: …… Jenni Holland (Chair of Governors)

Date: ……..