




never give up.



ACE Tiverton

Part of the ACE Schools Multi Academy Trust

Children in Care Policy

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Children in care have the right to expect the same outcomes we all want for every child – they should be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution to society and achieve economic wellbeing.

2. Definition

- 2.1 'In care' is a term that refers to children in the care of the Local Authority. This can happen either with parental agreement or when a Court makes a Care Order. The child may be living with foster carers, in a residential unit, with family members, and sometimes with their parents. ACE Tiverton recognises that children in care may have very specific needs.

3. ACE Tiverton Commitment To Children In Care

- 3.1 Nationally the educational achievement of children in care as a group remains unacceptably low. The Social Exclusion Unit had identified five key reasons why children in care underachieve in education:
- i Too many young people's lives are characterised by instability.
 - ii Young people in care spend too much time out of school or other place of learning.
 - iii Children do not have sufficient help with their education if they get behind.
 - iv Carers are not expected, or equipped, to provide sufficient support and encouragement at home for learning and development
 - v Children in care need more help with their emotional, mental or physical health and wellbeing.
- 3.2 ACE Tiverton is committed to helping every child achieve the highest educational standards he or she possibly can. Children in care are a priority for admission, and ACE Tiverton will follow the Local Authority's admission criteria.

4. Roles And Responsibilities

- 4.1 The Designated Teacher for Children In Care is Daniel Ayling.
- 4.2 The Designated Teacher's Role and Responsibilities includes:
- i Promote a culture of high expectation amongst all staff in the school.
 - ii Make sure the young person has a voice in setting learning targets.
 - iii Be a source of advice for staff.

- iv To keep an up to date list of all children in care including those in the care of other LAs.
- v Record and monitor academic progress, attendance and personal development and report to place team/virtual school head teacher.
- vi Monitor attendance and exclusions weekly and liaise with EWO/exclusions officer as appropriate.
- vii Lead on the development and implementation of each child's personal education plan (PEP).
- viii Ensure specific interventions and targeted support are used to make sure personal education targets are met (particularly in English and maths).
- ix Attend relevant training.
- x Make sure that looked after children are prioritised for 1:1 tuition arrangements and that carers understand the importance of supporting learning at home.
- xi Promote good communication between all those involved in the child's life and ensure school staff are aware of all relevant information.
- xii Ensure confidentiality on individual children, sharing confidential/personal information on a need to know basis.
- xiii Liaise pro-actively with place team, virtual school head teacher and social care team.
- xiv Ensure that a member of staff attends care reviews, whenever possible.
- xv Provide additional support for transition between schools/key stages and liaise with new DT.
- xvi Link with SENCO to ensure any special educational needs are assessed on arrival and met.
- xvii Encourage engagement in school clubs or activities and ensure participation in school trips and curriculum enhancement activities.
- xviii Provide a report for trustees at least once a year.

4.3 All ACE Tiverton staff will:

- i Follow school procedures.
- ii Keep the designated teacher informed about a child in care's progress.
- iii Have high expectations of the educational and personal achievements of children in care.
- iv Positively promote the raising of a child in care's self-esteem.

- v Ensure any child in care is supported sensitively and that confidentiality is maintained.
- vi Be familiar with the school's policy and guidance on children in care and respond appropriately to requests for information to support peps and review meetings.
- vii Liaise with the designated teacher where a child in care is underachieving or experiencing difficulties
- viii Make full use of assessment for learning approaches to improve the short and medium term progress of children in care and understand where they are in their learning, where they need to go and how to get there.
- ix Contribute to regular liaison with social care colleagues and other appropriate.
- x Professionals and keep carers fully informed at all times.
- xi Keep appropriate records, confidentially as necessary, and make these available to other professionals/ parents/carers/pupil as appropriate.
- xii Make extra copies of reports available when required by others in and beyond the school.

