

THE WESTGATE SCHOOL

Hampshire's First 4-16 'All Through' School

*"The Westgate School is a community of learners where partnerships inspire success for all:
learning together – achieving excellence"*

Headteacher: Mrs F A Dean, MA (Ed)

Initial Policy date		Next scheduled review	November 2023
Governor approved	November 2022	Key person/people	HT/SENCo/Designated Teacher – Mrs E Pillinger (Head of Learning Support)/Nominated Governor: P Catchpole
Model Policy	HCC Virtual School and College	Model localised	Yes
Pupil leadership team review		Y / N / N/A	

THE EDUCATION OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Westgate School believes that in partnership with Hampshire County Council as Corporate Parents we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children.

Principles

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 unlock their potential and enjoy learning.

To fulfil our schools' role alongside HCC as corporate parents and to promote and support the education of our Looked After Children, by asking the question, 'Would this be good enough for my child?'

The Westgate School 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.

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.
 - Application of the SEND Code of Practice and other relevant legislation.
 - Child Protection information when appropriate.
 - Baseline information and progress reports.
 - Attendance figures
 - Exclusions/data regarding participation

- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child/young person to include appropriate targets and information. This must be compatible with the child's/young person's Care Plan and where applicable include any other school plan, e.g. Statement of Special Education Need, and associated plans, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme.

- Ensure that someone 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 Virtual School 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 school colleagues 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 pupil support in school.

- Ensure that Looked After Children have access to an appropriate curriculum for Personal Development.

- 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 (as part of the SEND annual review).

All governors and school colleagues will support the local authority in its statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of Looked After Children

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Virtual School & College for Children and Young People in Care's Mission Statement (updated 2020):

Vulnerable young people will enter adulthood not as vulnerable adults but as confident citizens with the tools, self confidence and resilience to lead worthwhile, and fulfilling lives.