

Baynards school Policy for Children Looked After



Who are our Children Looked After?

Children and young people become "Looked After" either if they have been taken into care by the local authority, or have been accommodated by the local authority (a voluntary care arrangement). Most Children Looked After will be living with foster parents but a smaller number may be in children's residential units, living with a relative or even be placed at home with their birth parents.

Since the White Paper 'Care Matters' of July 2007 the term "Children in Care" is also in use.

The governing body of Baynards Primary School is committed to providing quality education for all its pupils, based on equality of access, opportunity and outcomes

For Children Looked After it is nationally recognised that there is considerable educational underachievement when compared with their peers as and this governing body is committed to implementing the principles and practice as outlined in:

- DfEE Circular 0269/2000
- DfEE/DOH Guidance 2000
- A Better Education for Children in Care. Social Exclusion Unit. Sept. 2003
- Children Act 2004, specifically
- Care Matters: Time for Change DfES June 2007

"The duty to safeguard looked after children, to promote their educational achievements and to ensure they are able to achieve and reach their full potential"

Section 52 Children Act 2004

The 2000 Guidance introduced key measures, in order to improve multi-agency coordination and improve educational life chances for Children Looked After including Designated Teachers for Children Looked After and the introduction of a Personal Education Plan for each pupil.

Care Matters has broadened and strengthened the support considered appropriate for Children in Care from birth to leaving care.

The governing body is committed to ensuring that the following roles and responsibilities are carried out effectively in order to fulfil the school's duty regarding these pupils.