

Policy for Looked After Children

1. The Governors and staff of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar, Alford, recognise the additional vulnerabilities of Looked After Children and aim to:
 - make a real difference in helping to provide the best possible education for looked after children.
 - give our young people in care professional help, encouragement and support, so they find our school a welcoming and friendly place.
 - be fully inclusive and challenge negative views and stereotypes.
 - offer support to and work with their foster carers on how to assist the young people's learning and enhance educational opportunities.
2. We will support the Government's agenda for giving all looked after children the same life chances as any other child, in that we want them to: be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution to society and achieve economic wellbeing.
3. The Children Act 2004 places a duty on us all as corporate parents to work together to promote the educational achievement of looked after children. We recognise that schools are at the very heart of this process so that we can provide a good education in order to unlock a bright future and so increase the life chances of this vulnerable group.
4. We recognise our responsibilities as governors and staff and we actively want to support the local authority in undertaking its statutory responsibility, under section 52 of the Children Act 2004. This is to help this vulnerable group to succeed in education, champion their needs, raise awareness and challenge negative assumptions at all levels.
5. We will monitor closely the progress that any looked after children are making in our school and identify if there are barriers to their next steps of learning and progress.
6. Our Designated Teacher, Mr J Felton, will follow the recommendations set down in the statutory guidance entitled: **The Role and Responsibilities of the Designated Teacher for Looked After Children 2009**. In addition, our Teaching and Support Staff will assist in the implementation of this policy for looked after children.
7. We will monitor and evaluate the impact of our school provision, learning and teaching and support for looked after children. An annual reporting cycle will be introduced which informs on the following key aspects of provision:
 - The number of looked after children on roll
 - Attendance statistics for any authorised and unauthorised absence
 - The frequency, circumstance and reasons for any recorded exclusion
 - How these children are performing in core subjects, their progress and any value added measure when compared against initial baseline assessment
 - The frequency of them taking part in extracurricular activities
 - Their attainment relative to the targets set in core and foundation subjects
 - The arrangements for additional support identified
 - The quality and updating of the educational targets recorded in their PEP (Pastoral Education Plan).