



# Porthcawl Comprehensive School

## Policy for Looked After Children

Schools have a major part to play in ensuring that Looked After Children are enabled to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy, achieve, make a positive contribution to society and achieve economic wellbeing, in line with *Every Child Matters*. Every aspect of school life in supporting children and young people is underpinned by children's rights, outlined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

### Aims

- To listen to our young people, giving them agency and autonomy;
- To provide a safe and secure environment, where there is belief in the abilities and potential of all children;
- To support our Looked After Children and give them equal access to every opportunity to achieve their potential and to enjoy learning;
- To promote inclusion through challenging and changing attitudes;
- To work in partnership with carers, parents, social workers and other professionals.

### Responsibilities

#### a. The Governing Body will:

- give priority consideration to Looked After Children in line with local admission processes;
- ensure a Designated Teacher for Looked After Children is appointed and enabled to carry out their responsibilities;
- identify a Nominated Governor for Looked After Children, and give appropriate training to enable him/her to carry out this function.

#### b. The Head (Mr. A. Slade) will:

- ensure that the needs of Looked After Children are given appropriate priority;
- ensure that the programme put in place by the designated teacher raises awareness of and challenges negative stereotypes about Looked After Children.

#### c. The Designated Teacher (Mrs. J. Sloggett) supported by the CLA Key worker (Mrs A. Rowberry) will:

- maintain an up to date record of all pupils who are looked after on the school roll;
- track and monitor progress of individual pupils who are looked after;
- ensure educational information is transferred speedily between agencies and new schools;
- ensure a Personal Education Plan is put in place, implemented and regularly reviewed for every looked after child;
- ensure the school shares and supports high expectations for Looked After Children;
- investigate any causes of concern, both academic and pastoral;
- ensure the school is represented at review meetings and appropriate documentation completed;
- report on a termly basis to the Governing Body on all matters concerning Looked After Children;
- ensure that staff are kept well informed and appropriately trained.

### Involving the Young Person

It is important that a young person is aware that information is being recorded regarding their personal circumstances and they should be fully involved at all times. Therefore, the school will establish with each Looked After Child:

- What personal information they wish to be shared with teachers/support staff;
- Who they wish to attend any meetings concerning them;
- Where they wish meetings to be held;
- When meetings should be held;
- What support they would like in school;

This policy will be reviewed annually.

November 2021