



POLICY STATEMENT – LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

Rationale

The term 'looked-after' was introduced by the Children Act 1989 and refers to children who are subject to care orders and those who are voluntarily accommodated.

Nationally, looked-after children achieve significantly below average in examinations. The college wishes to provide appropriate support to looked-after children to help them achieve their academic potential, as well as contributing to their personal and social development.

Purpose

1. Because of their domestic circumstances, looked-after children may suffer disadvantages that will affect their academic work. As a result, it is incumbent on the college to provide additional support to these students.
2. Additional support will involve detailed tracking of student measures such as academic performance, attendance, consequences and praise.
3. Looked-after students will receive one-to-one mentoring.

Guidelines

1. The Headteacher is currently the named teacher with responsibility for looked-after children.
2. There is also a named governor with responsibility for looked-after children who will liaise with the named teacher to report back to the Governing Body.
3. Staff will be notified of the names of looked-after students so that they may provide any necessary support in their curriculum areas. They will also provide information for the regular monitoring sessions and as requested.
4. The named teacher will liaise with North Tyneside Raising Health and Education of Looked After Children (RHELAC), Newcastle Education, Achievement and Health Support Team, students' carers and the allocated social workers over students' progress and any issues of concern.
5. The named teacher will attend each student's Looked-After Review meeting, take the lead in preparing each student's Personal Education Plan (PEP) and attend each student's PEP meeting.
6. The school will encourage looked-after students to be involved in extra-curricular activities that will promote their self-esteem and sense of success.

Conclusion

By continuing to provide high quality, individual support, Beacon Hill School will help them achieve their academic potential and promote their personal and social development.