All Saints' C. of E. Primary School

Policy Subject: Education of Looked-After and Previously Looked- After Children

Date: September 2026

Vision:
Rooted in faith.
Growing through learning.
Enabling all to flourish.



***Philippians 4:13** - 'I can face all things through Christ who strengthens me'.*

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Joanne Ghosh – Head Teacher

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (D-DSLs)

Gemma Osafo – Deputy Head Teacher

Louisa Ball – Inclusion Manager/SENCO

Janet Sharp – KS2 Phase Leader

Online Safety Lead (OSL)

Janet Sharp – KS2 Phase Leader

Designated Member of Staff for Looked After Children

Louisa Ball – Inclusion Manager/SENCO

Governors with Responsibility for Safeguarding

Simon Oddie – Chair of Governors
Jacynth Bennett - Governor

Safeguarding Statement

The Governors and staff of All Saints' CofE Primary School fully recognise and are committed to the responsibilities and duty placed upon them with regard to arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils. We expect all staff, including volunteers, to share this commitment, recognising that they have a full and active part to play in protecting pupils from harm.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- *Protecting children from maltreatment*
- *Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development*
- *Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care*
- *Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes*

Parents and carers expect a secure and caring environment in which the children can flourish. We believe that our school should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment in which all pupils can learn and which promotes the social, physical and emotional wellbeing of each individual pupil, and which takes a child-centred approach.

To meet this expectation, the school adheres to a wide range of national and local policies and guidance, including Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 and policy is in line with the London Child Protection Procedures 2017 (7th edition amended March 2025), as well as the school's Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, Online Safety Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy and Health & Safety Policy. Parents and carers are welcome to read the policies on our website or on request from the School Office.

Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child's welfare. We will ensure that our concerns about our pupils are discussed with his/her parents/carers first unless we have reason to believe that such a move would be contrary to the child's welfare.

Part of our legal duty to safeguard children may also include the need to consult with and take advice from other agencies such as the Police or Social Services should the need arise.

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Introduction

This policy has been developed by the Governing Body and Staff at All Saints' CE Primary School with due regard to the guidance entitled, *'The designated teacher for looked-after and previously looked-after children statutory guidance on their roles and responsibilities'* (February 2018) published by the Department for Education.

Background

Nationally, children in care significantly underachieve and are at greater risk of exclusion and of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) compared with their peers. Schools have a major part to play in ensuring that Looked after Children (LAC) and Previously Looked After Children (PLAC) are enabled to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy, achieve, make a positive contribution to society and achieve economic well-being.

Aims

The overarching aim of this policy is to ensure Looked after Children (LAC) and Post Looked After Children (PLAC) on roll at All Saints' CE Primary School have their individual needs met and receive equal opportunity in education despite any disadvantage they have encountered or continue to encounter in their lives. We adhere to the following principles.

- Prioritising education and attendance; Category 1 in our Admissions Code prioritises admission for LAC and PLAC
- Promote inclusion in all areas of school life
- Provide early intervention and targeted support
- Promote health, mental health and wellbeing

The role of the Designated Teacher

- To maintain up to date records of LAC and PLAC on roll at the school
- To promote a culture of high expectations and aspirations
- To keep an overview of the academic progress and needs of each LAC and PLAC pupil
- To ensure the young person has a voice in setting learning targets and making decisions about their education
- To advocate on behalf of LAC

- To prioritise, where necessary, LAC and PLAC for one-to-one support and other whole school interventions and initiatives
- To assist foster carers in supporting learning at home, including blended learning
- To keep abreast of National and local policies and initiatives aimed at supporting the education of LAC and PLAC
- To attend Designated Teacher training organised by the Virtual School, Wandsworth
- To be the point of contact for all agencies requesting information about the child
- To lead on the development and implementation of the Personal Education Plan in school
- To run training for staff regarding LAC issues as necessary
- To ensure the school does everything possible to maximise the educational stability of the child
- To track academic progress and target support appropriately
- Ensure confidentiality for individual pupils, sharing personal information on a need-to-know basis
- Encourage LAC and PLAC to join in extra-curricular activities and out of school learning
- Organise and set up TAC (Team Around the Child) meetings with other professionals to achieve objectives, including reducing exclusions.
- Be aware that a high number of LAC and PLAC say they are bullied, so will actively monitor and prevent bullying in school by raising awareness through the school's Anti-Bullying Policy
- Closely monitor attendance and follow up poor attendance via letters and TAC meetings

The role of the Personal Education Plan (PEP)

- The PEP forms part of the care plan and will be completed within 20 days when a new LAC is on the school roll
- Thereafter the PEP should be reviewed and updated after 3 months and then at least every 6 months in case of significant change to the child's circumstances
- The PEP will be shared with key staff who plan and deliver the support needed by the child
- The school recognises that it has a responsibility for making the PEP a living and useful document
- The PEP will be updated at least every 6 months with educational progress, current assessment levels, outcomes set and other key data
- The PEP will be shared when there is a change of teacher

Responsibilities of All Staff

As we do for all our pupils, staff will:

- have high expectations for the educational and personal achievement of LAC and PLAC, as for all pupils
- maintain confidentiality with regard to LAC and PLAC and ensure that are supported sensitively
- respond positively to a pupil's request to name a member of staff whom they can talk to when they feel it is necessary
- respond promptly to the Designated Teacher's requests for information
- work to enable LAC and PLAC to achieve stability and success within school
- promote self-esteem for all LAC and PLAC
- have an understanding of the key issues that affect the learning of LAC and PLAC and attend any appropriate training

- be aware that many LAC and PLAC say that are bullied so work to prevent bullying in line with school policy

This policy links to:

- The Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- The Equality and Diversity Policy
- The Behaviour Policy
- The Anti-Bullying Policy

The Education of Looked-After and Previously Looked-After Children Policy was reviewed at the Pupils Committee in March 2023.

It was approved by Governors in September 2026.



Signed: …… …… Chair of Governors:

Date: …24/09/2026…….

Date of Next Review: September 2027