Supporting Previously-Looked After Children (PLAC)

The aim of this document is to detail our in-school approaches for providing PLAC with targeted and compassionate support to ensure PLAC thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Our processes outlined within this document seek to:

- Narrow the attainment gap between PLAC and their peers.
- Support the emotional well-being and mental health of PLAC.
- Build strong, trusting relationships between staff and PLAC.

Key Staff

- Designated Teacher with responsibility for Children Looked After: Mr C Hamilton (Associate Assistant Headteacher
- Designated Teacher with responsibility for PLAC: Mr C Hamilton (Associate Assistant Headteacher)
- Pastoral Support Officer for PLAC: Mrs B Brathwaite
- Pupil Premium Support: Miss K Sutton (Associate Assistant Headteacher)
- Wellbeing and Learning Support: Mrs J Stokes (Mental Health Lead, SENDCo, Assistant Headteacher)
- Attendance Officer: Mrs M Harper

What we do at Reigate School

PLAC at Reigate School have access to key staff mentioned above in addition to the ordinary provision provided for all children. The DT maintains oversight of PLAC and is supported by staff in school to promote the education and wellbeing of PLAC.

The Pastoral Support Officer will meet with PLAC at least twice a term to offer support and to help identify any emerging concerns. The Pastoral Support Officer will complete student profiling (Boxall Profile) when there are any concerns and will utilise this generated information to share appropriate strategies with the pastoral team and teachers. Where needed, the Mental Health Lead will work alongside the pastoral team to set up in-house support, such as counselling, and aid with referrals to external professionals should this be necessary.

The attendance of all children is closely monitored by the Attendance Officer. During termly attendance meetings with our school Inclusion Officer (Surrey LA), children with identified characteristics including PLAC will be discussed to ensure that adequate support is in place should attendance be low or declining.

Provision for PLAC includes the provision of high quality teaching and learning as this has greatest outcomes on academic achievement and progress. The same principles as Pupil Premium are applied (high quality teaching, targeted academic support and wider strategies).

Post-LAC provision also requires bespoke interventions to develop social, emotional and interpersonal skills using trauma informed strategies. Provision for these individuals includes:

- Form tutors regularly checking-in with PLAC
- Adaptation of timetables (re-integration and to support social and emotional development)
- Use of Brac the school mental well-being support dog
- Time with the pastoral support team to work on social development skills
- Directed time with Head of Year/Head of Population to develop interpersonal skills
- Meetings with carers to discuss concerns
- Liaison with Children's Services and access to Early Help where appropriate
- Work with other outside agencies such as SEND case officers to support academic and social development
- Work with Surrey Virtual School
- Work with well-being team including Sparkfish and ELSA sessions.

To be reviewed September 2027