


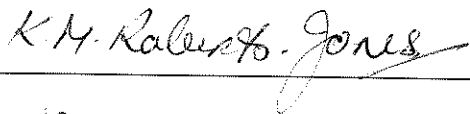
Brynllwarch Hall School



LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN POLICY

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed as detailed in the school's policy review cycle. It may also be necessary to review and amend it sooner to reflect both local and national changes.

Signed		Headteacher
Signed		Chair of Governors
Dated:	19th April 2016	
Date of Review:	April 2019	

Introduction

Brynlywarch believes that as Corporate Parents we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the education of Looked After Children (LAC). These are children who are looked after by the Local Authority. This is a Powys Model Policy that has been developed by senior officers to take account of:

- National Assembly for Wales Circular 2/2001 "Guidance on the Education of Children Looked After by Local Authorities";
- "Powys' Protocol for the Education of Looked After Children".

Aims

The Vision and Aims of education at Brynlywarch are the same for all pupils and are encapsulated in our School Vision Statement.

- To provide a safe and secure environment; one which values education and believes in the abilities and potential of all children.
- To ensure progress and attainment of our Looked After Children keeps pace with those of their peers.
- Identifying our schools' role as Corporate Parents in order to promote and support the education of our Looked After Children, asking the question, 'Would this be good enough for my child?'

In pursuit of this policy we will:

- Designate a Nominated Teacher for Looked After Children who will:
 - act as their advocate and co-ordinate support/services,
 - ensure the school's compliance with the Powys Joint Protocol for the Education of Looked After Children.

The Nominated Teachers will:

- Maintain a register of all Looked After Children. This will include a record of:
 - The contact person in the Looked After Children Team.
 - Status i.e. care order or accommodated.
 - Type of placement e.g. foster, respite, residential.
 - Name of Social Worker, area office, telephone number.
 - Daily contact and telephone numbers where appropriate e.g. name of young person, name of parent or carer or key worker in children's home.

- Share Child Protection/disability information which could be shared, if appropriate.
 - Their academic progress.
 - Baseline information and all test results.
 - Named persons who should receive copies of reports.
- Meet with the Looked After Children Social Worker/Assistant regularly to review progress, as part of the LAC review process. Wherever possible these will be organised to coincide with the child's Annual Review of their Statement of SEN.
 - Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child, compatible with the child's Social Services Care Plan and form part of any other school plan. e.g. Statement, Transition Plan, Pastoral Support Programme.
 - Ensure that someone attends Social Services Reviews on each child and/or always prepares a written report that promotes the continuity and stability of their education (see above regarding joint reviews).
 - Ensure that should a Looked After Children be identified at risk of exclusion then contact is made with the Local Authority's Social Inclusion Co-ordinator.
 - Ensure that they participate in joint training.
 - Ensure that on admission or transfer all relevant information is requested at the outset.
 - Ensure that systems are in place to identify and prioritise when Looked After Children are underachieving and have early interventions to improve this.
 - Ensure that systems are in place to keep staff up to date and informed about Looked After Children.
 - Ensure that Looked After Children are listened to and have access to support and counselling in school.

All Governors and staff will:

- Work in partnership with parents and agencies.
- Support carers to value educational achievement and improve attendance.
- Celebrate the achievements of Looked After Children.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- The Nominated Teachers will ensure that Governors are fully aware of the achievements of Children in Public Care.
- The Governing body will monitor and evaluate the progress made by individuals and all the children using the same criteria used for other children in the peer group.

Nominated Teacher

This is currently:

Mr Rob James