



Dear Parents and Carers

Schools and local authorities have the duty, required by the Department of Education, to promote education, progress and achievement for previously looked after children. These are children who may have been adopted, placed on special guardianship orders (SGOs) or a child arrangement order (previously, Residency Order) from care.

These duties recognise that children who have previously been 'in care' may well require additional support resulting from their life experiences prior to being adopted or placed with permanent families.

Schools are currently allocated additional funding for this group of pupils, called Pupil Premium Grant Plus, and this will continue.

The duty involves:

- Having a member of staff as the named person to lead within the school on promoting education progress and attainment for previously looked after children. This member is Mrs Fox (Safeguarding manager), overseen by Miss Bate (Senior Deputy Headteacher & DSL).
- Ensuring school policies take into account the needs of potentially more vulnerable pupils.
- Using the academy's resources effectively to support progress and achievement for these pupils.
- Tracking progress and attainment.
- Providing advice, support and information to parents and guardians.

The local authority duty is to provide advice, information and guidance to schools, parents and guardians. We have two Virtual schools that support these duties: Lancashire Virtual School will lead on the local authority duties. They can be contacted by email virtualschool@lancashire.gov.uk. Along with Blackpool Virtual School, who can be contacted by email virtual.school@blackpool.gov.uk.

In order for a school to access the additional funding and provide any additional support required, they need to know which of their pupils have been adopted, are on SGO s or subject to a child arrangement order, from care. This enables the school to claim the funding when they complete the school census. Only children who had a period in care prior to being adopted, placed on an SGO or a child arrangement order, are eligible for the academy to receive external support.

If you have adopted a child, or care for a child through a special guardianship order or a child arrangement order, and the child was previously a child in care (in any local authority in England and Wales or in state care in another country) –and you wish for the academy to be able to access additional support to help with progress and attainment of this group of students - please contact our designated member of staff for previously looked after children.

School may require a copy of the adoption, SGO or Child Arrangement Order (previously, Residency Order) certificate.





I understand that there may be circumstances when you wish to keep matters confidential to yourself and as such you are under no obligation to respond to this letter. However, your help in doing so is appreciated as this will enable the academy to provide targeted support for students who have previously been looked after.

This information will be held securely and will only be accessible to those school staff, when necessary, to enable any additional support as and when it is required.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Miss F Bate or Mrs S Fox.

Yours faithfully

Miss F Bate

Miss F. Bate

Senior Deputy Headteacher & DSL
