

Recreation Road Infant School

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LOOKED AFTER AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN POLICY and PRACTICE

Looked After or Vulnerable Children may have had their lives disrupted by tragedy and /or trauma and/or illness.

Features to be aware of:

Questions That Might Be Dominating Thoughts and Actions of L.A.C:

- Where have I come from?
- Why did people give up on me?
- What's wrong with me?
- Where do I belong?
- What lays ahead?
- Who will care?
- What will become of me?

There might be anxieties relating to feelings of helplessness and uncertainty
There might be confusion through the feelings of mistrust, anger and sadness
There might be a sense of anxiety through lack of permanance and security

Behaviours

With the above dominating children's thoughts is it any wonder they might:

- Blame themselves for being bad and do things to confirm this
- Test the acceptance of carers by doing unacceptable things including being prone to illness/accidents
- Invite rejection and punishment through their behaviour and so (possibly) repeat the past
- Idealise or denigrate their carers
- Seek and resist intimacy and dependency



What Do They Need?

- Someone who is a constant and continuous presence
- A good education
- A need to be listened to through both their words and actions
- A sense of control and participation

At Recreation Road Infant School we aim to:

Have a named designated person to monitor procedures and provision: Serena Dixon HT and Chair of Governors.

Develop a good relationship with carers including social care-maintaining as appropriate a Personal Education Plan (PEP)

Employ a multi-agency approach productively

Provide stability through having a named "mentor" to monitor well-being

Monitor and review academic progress regularly-providing intervention programmes as necessary

Ensure smooth and planned transition either to new setting or phase transfer

Offer opportunities for involvement eg places on school/eco-council, extra-curricular opportunities

Report regularly to Full Governing Body regarding Looked After or Vulnerable Children.

Future Work:

To work through cluster group to provide some family/child support eg Parent Support Advisor/working with Childrens' Centre

Staff training and development- sharing notes from conferences

Signed.....Headteacher

Date.....

Signed.....Chair of Governors

Date.....