



Cornerstone Nurseries Policy on the EY Education of Looked After Children

Cornerstone Nurseries believes that in partnership with Hampshire County Council, we have a special duty to safeguard and promote the early care and education of Looked After Children.

Aim

To provide a safe and secure environment, where they feel valued and there is a belief in their abilities and future potential.

To support our Looked After Children and give them access to every opportunity to achieve and enjoy learning.

To fulfil our nursery role and to promote and support the early education of our Looked After Children, by asking the question **“Would this be good enough for my child?”**

In pursuit of this policy we will:

- Nominate a Designated Lead for Looked After Children who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them. The nominated people are
Miss Muffet Nursery - Carolyn Martyn (Manager), Diana Lovell (Deputy Manager)
Cornerstone Day Nursery - Lauren Geeson (Manager), Emma Mackay & Kirstie Powell (Joint deputy managers)
- Ensure that the needs of Looked After Children in the nursery are taken into account at a management level and to support the designated member of staff.
- Support the designated person in carrying out their role by making time available to do this.

The Designated Lead will:

- Maintain an up-to-date record of all Looked After Children who are on roll. This will include:
 - Status i.e. care order or accommodation.
 - Type of Placement ie foster, respite, residential.
 - Name of Social Worker, area office, telephone number.
 - Daily contact and numbers e.g. name of parent or carer or key worker in children’s home.
 - SEN Code of Practice
 - Child Protection information when appropriate.
 - Baseline information and all test results.
 - Attendance figures

- Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child/young person to include appropriate targets and above information. This must be compatible with the child's/young person's Care Plan and where applicable include any other plan, e.g. Statement of Special Education Need and associated plans, Transition Plan.
- Ensure that someone attends Children's Services Reviews on each child and/or always prepares a written report which promotes the continuity and stability of their early education and care.
- Liaise with the Virtual School for Looked After Children on a regular basis with regard to the performance, attendance and attainment of Looked After Children.
- Ensure that if/when the child transfers setting all relevant information is forwarded to the receiving setting as a matter of priority.
- 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 where and when appropriate.
- Ensure that Looked After Children, along with all children, are listened to and have equal opportunity to all support.
- Ensure that they keep the nursery up to date with current legislation and its implication for the nursery in respect of Looked After Children.

All staff will:

- Support the local authority in its statutory duty to promote the early educational achievement of looked after children.

The Hampshire Mission Statement

“Making Hampshire a better place for children and young people, where all of them, including those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged, have the best possible start in life and are supported by the whole community to reach their potential whatever it takes.”