



# LAC Policy

Dyddiad Cymeradwyo a Dyddiad Adolygu  
Date Approved and Review Date

*Gweler Cynllun Adolygu Polisiau*  
*See Policy Review Timetable*

**Policy and guidelines for the education of looked after children**  
**(LAC - Looked After Children)**

**Children and young people who are 'looked after' have either been taken into care by the Local Authority, or have been placed in care voluntarily. The majority of them live with foster parents, but a small number live in children's homes, live with a relation, or are even back at home with their parent/parents.  
LAC will have a care manager who is responsible for their care plan.**

Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy and the Governing Body are committed to providing a high standard of education to all learners. This is based on equal opportunities, access and outcomes. It is recognized (nationally) that underachievement is common amongst LAC when compared with their peers. LAC are also more likely to be excluded than their peers. We have a duty to protect our LAC, to promote their educational achievement and to ensure that they reach their full potential. We need to assist them to be safe and healthy, to experience success, to contribute positively to society and to be financially stable. Along with the LEA we have a responsibility to ensure an acceptable standard of upbringing to secure a better future. This is achieved through the six principles:

1. Prioritising education
2. Nurturing high expectations
3. Inclusion – changing and challenging attitudes
4. Striving for stability and permanence
5. Early intervention by prioritising the actions to be taken
6. Listening to the child / young person.

**Key factors:**

1. Ensure that the school has a designated teacher who is responsible for LAC
2. Ensure that the school has a designated governor who is responsible for LAC
3. Ensure that LAC have a PEP (Personal Education Plan) in place.

At Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy the Designated Teacher for Child Protection, the ALNCO, Learning Support and the Heads of Year/Progress Leaders all work very closely together.

One governor has responsibility for Child Protection and LAC.

**Role and responsibilities of the Designated Teacher** (in cooperation with the above):

- Act as an advocate for the LAC, or receive information from a suitable advocate
- Keep an up to date LAC list. The list will include:
  - Care status
  - Name of Social Worker, office and phone number
  - Contact phone number e.g. parent, foster parent, children's home contact
  - AEN action plan
  - Initial assessment and test results
  - Attendance
  - Exclusions (if relevant)
- Ensure that there's a suitable PEP in place for LAC and that the plan is compatible with the Care Plan. It should also include any other educational plan e.g. AEN, Pastoral Plan etc
- Ensure that a staff representative is present during reviews, and that the designated member has prepared a report beforehand to promote the continuity and stability of education
- If there is any cause for concern arrange emergency meetings with the relevant persons

- If a LAC transfers to another school, remit all relevant documents as soon as possible
- Ensure that guidelines are in place to recognize underachieving, and prioritize reactive strategies for the sake of the individual
- Keep all staff up to date with current LAC information, if appropriate and relevant to the teaching. Ensure confidentiality, where appropriate
- Ensure that LAC are given a fair hearing, as with all other children, and that they are given equal opportunities to access pastoral care and support
- Keep up to date with current LAC legislation
- Report annually to the Governing Body link member
- Promote LAC participation in extra-curricular activities In cooperation with Learning Support
- Ensure access to external examinations in cooperation with the subject teachers.

#### **Responsibility of all staff:**

- As with all other learners, have high expectations and celebrate achievements
- Appreciate confidentiality and ensure sensitive support
- React promptly to requests for information by the designated teacher
- Contact the designated teacher if there is a cause for concern regarding LAC
- Ensure that LAC are stable and successful in the work/experiences provided
- Promote self-esteem
- Understand the nature of issues which can affect the teaching of LAC.

#### **Governing Body responsibilities:**

- Nominate a LAC representative
- Ensure that all governors are aware of the legal requirements and the guidelines for the education of LAC
- Allocate suitable resources to respond to the needs of LAC
- Ensure that the other school policies support the needs of LAC
- Accept anonymous information regarding LAC and respect confidentiality
- Support the head, the designated teacher and all school staff to ensure that the needs of LAC are recognized, and meet the needs of the parents.

#### ***This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies and guidelines:***

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| 1. <i>Child Protection policy</i>      | 2. <i>Behaviour and Positive Discipline policy</i> |
| 3. <i>Anti-bullying policy</i>         | 4. <i>AEN policy</i>                               |
| 5. <i>Teaching and Learning Policy</i> | 6. <i>Code of conduct</i>                          |
| 7. <i>School/home agreement</i>        |  |

#### **Key roles**

**Mr Owain Gethin Davies (Headteacher), Mr John LI Roberts (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Rhian Evans (Designated Teacher for Child Protection and Welfare), Mr Roger Beech (Assistant Head Wellbeing and Pupil Progress), Mrs Leah Jones, Mrs Elin Atherton, Ms Catrin Rowlands, Mrs Glenda Barlow, (Learning and Progress Managers for year)**