

Looked After Children Policy

Children and young people who are looked after require special treatment and positive discrimination in their favour in order to improve their situation.

Wickersley Kids Club endeavours to provide positive experiences and offer stability, safety, continuity and individual care and attention for all our pupils. With this in mind, we aim to:

- Plan realistically and using the club's resources efficiently in order to ensure the club meets the needs of the children.
- Help pupils develop their cultural, moral and social understanding.
- Promote a positive approach in the club environment

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- The Children Act 1989
- The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010
- The Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000
- The Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- The Children and Families Act 2014

This policy will be implemented in conjunction with the club's:

- Code of Conduct.
- Behaviour Policy.
- Anti-bullying Policy.
- Equality Opportunities Policy
- Child Protection Policy

Definitions

Looked after children are defined as, children or young people who are subject of a Care Order or Interim Care Order under the Children Act 1989.

This definition applies to children who are placed in foster care, children's residential homes, with relatives or friends, in semi-independent or supported independent accommodation

If a child is subject to a Care or Interim Care Order whilst placed with a parent, they are classed as looked after, since the LA has parental responsibility.

Children who are not subject to an order, but are accommodated by the LA under an agreement with their parents, are regarded as looked after.

Manager's Responsibility

The manager will make all members of staff aware that the support of looked after children is a key priority.

The manager will lead in actively challenging negative stereotypes of looked after children.

The manager will ensure that all looked after children are welcomed into a positive environment where they will feel safe.

Staff Responsibility

Staff will be aware of looked after children and provide them with support and encouragement.

Staff will preserve confidentiality and show sensitivity and understanding.

Staff will be vigilant for signs of bullying

Staff will promote the self-esteem of looked after children.