



Senior Manager & Nominated Individual: Miss C Bates

Initial Policy date	March 2025	Next scheduled review	April 2026
Governor approved	September 2025	Key person/people	Nominated Individual / Nursery Manager and DT
Model policy			

LAC/PLAC Policy

(Looked after children/previously looked after children)

At **Rotherly Day Nursery** we are committed to the inclusion for all children. This statement outlines the framework for Rotherly Day Nursery to meet its duty and obligations to provide inclusive, high-quality education for all children, including children who are looked after or previously looked after children by the local authority.

Rotherly Day Nursery ensures that all children have the right to be cared for and educated to develop and unlock their potential. We provide a positive and welcoming environment where children are supported according to their individual needs. The Nursery recognises that each child's needs are unique and believes that all children should be given the same equal opportunities and experiences.

Legal framework

The legal framework for this policy is underpinned by or supported through:

- Childcare Act 2006
- Children Act (1989 and 2004)
- Adoption and Children Act (2002)
- Children and Young Persons Act (2008)
- Children and Families Act (2014)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)

Definition:

The description 'looked after' is generally used to describe a child who is looked after by the local authority. This includes children who are subject to a care order or temporarily classed as looked after on a planned basis for short breaks or respite care. Most looked after children will be cared for by foster carers with a small minority in children's homes, looked after by family members or even placed back within the family home.

Aims:

- Nominate a Designated Teacher for Looked After Children who will act as their advocate and co-ordinate support for them.
- Nominate a school governor to ensure that the needs of Looked After Children in the nursery are taken into account at a school management level and to support the Designated Teacher.
- Support the Designated Teacher in carrying out their role by making time available and ensuring that they attend training on Looked After Children.

The Designated Teacher will:

- Maintain an up-to-date record of all Looked After Children who are on nursery roll.

This will include:

- Status i.e., care order or accommodated.
- Type of Placement i.e., 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.
- Application of the SEND Code of Practice and other relevant legislation.
- Child Protection information when appropriate.
- Baseline information and progress reports.
- Attendance figures
- Exclusions/data regarding participation
 - Ensure that there is a Personal Education Plan for each child/young person to include appropriate targets and information. This must be compatible with the child's/young person's Care Plan and where applicable include any other plan, e.g. Educational Health and Care Plan, and associated plans, Transition Plan.
 - Ensure that someone attends Children's Services Reviews on each child/young person and/or always prepares a written report which promotes the continuity and stability of their education.
 - 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/young person transfers nursery all relevant information is forwarded to the receiving nursery 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 in line with existing policies.
 - Ensure that systems are in place to keep nursery colleagues 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 for support in nursery.
 - Ensure that Looked After Children have access to an appropriate curriculum for Personal Development.
 - Ensure that they keep the nursery up to date with current legislation and its implication for the nursery in respect of Looked After Children.
 - Report to the Governing body annually on the performance of the Looked After Children who are on the roll of the nursery (as part of the SEND annual review)

All governors and nursery colleagues will support the local authority in its statutory duty to promote the educational achievement of Looked After Children.

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Virtual School & College for Children and Young People in Care's Mission Statement (updated 2020):

Vulnerable young people will enter adulthood not as vulnerable adults but as confident citizens with the tools, self-confidence and resilience to lead worthwhile, and fulfilling lives.

Key Personnel

The Nursery Manager has overall responsibility for this policy and practices supported by the **designated Teacher** Lead in the Nursery who is: **Rachael Condon**.