

Lacey Green Primary Academy Children Missing Education (CME) Policy



Aspire to achieve...

This policy applies to all members of the school community and relates to the following legislation:

- Children Act 1989
- Education Act 1996
- Education Act 2002
- Children Act 2004
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Education (Pupil Registration) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2016

The following documentation is also related to this policy:

- Children Missing Education: statutory guidance for local authorities (DfE)
- Equality Act 2010: Advice for Schools (DfE)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges (DfE)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years. Statutory Guidance for Organisations Who Work With and Support Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (DfE) and (DoH)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children: A Guide to Inter-agency Working to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children
- Prevent Strategy (HM Gov)
- Teaching approaches that help build resilience to extremism among people (DfE)

We believe 'all children, regardless of their circumstances, are entitled to a full time education which is suitable to their age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs they may have. Children missing education (CME) are at significant risk of underachieving, being victims of abuse and becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) later on in life.' (Children Missing Education: statutory guidance for local authorities (DfE))

We understand that children that are particularly at risk of missing education are:

- pupils at risk of harm/neglect
- children of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller families
- families of Armed Forces personnel
- missing children/runaways
- children and young people supervised by the Youth Justice System
- children who cease to attend a school

Outlined below are some of those groups of children who are recognised as at risk of going missing from education and the systems currently in place to minimise the risk.

Children on roll of alternative providers, e.g. early college placements, extended work experience.

Effective monitoring systems are required between school and the provider and referrals made to the EWS where there are concerns about attendance. Where schools have bought the services of the external provider to support the monitoring of extended work experience placements, the partnership will inform the EWS of the names of children on placements and any concerns about non-compliance with the extended work experience protocol by schools.

Children living in Women's Refuges

Crewe Women's Aid and Macclesfield Women's Aid are both independently run charities. However they both liaise with Admissions within 2 weeks of the family arriving at the Refuge to ensure the children's access to educational provision. They liaise with EWS about any concerns or issues through their usual referral processes.

Children of homeless families living in temporary accommodation

Within Cheshire East there are a number of local housing associations with which the EWS liaise, to identify and secure the education of children who may be living in council accommodation, private housing accommodation, temporary housing or homeless units. Cheshire East EWS will continue to promote and encourage communication and co-operation between themselves and these partner agencies.

Children who have committed offences

Those at risk of going missing from education or who are currently off roll are referred to the EWS by the Youth Offending Service (YOS). The YOS alerts the appropriate Children's Services team to children who are about to be released from custody to enable an education provision to be in place as soon as possible after their release.

Cared for Children within Cheshire East

The Cared for Children team regularly monitors and tracks education provision. The attendance of Cared for Children is monitored regularly and schools are encouraged to make referrals to EWS where concerns about absence from school begin to emerge.

If a cared for child is believed to be missing then the **named Social Worker for the child must be informed immediately by the agency that has raised the concern.**

Children with a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller background

The EWS will ensure that children gain access to their legal entitlement to an education that meets their needs and promotes inclusion; through their usual referral procedures.

Children of Asylum Seekers/Refugees

The EWS will ensure that children gain access to their legal entitlement to an education that meets their needs and promotes inclusion; through their usual referral procedures.

Children who are permanently excluded from school

Those children who are permanently excluded from school are supported by the Education Support and Access Officer and through the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU). The head of the PRU is responsible for ensuring that secure systems are in place to monitor attendance at the PRU and/or alternative provision and make referrals to the EWS where there are concerns about access or attendance issues. Before the child is permanently excluded it is hoped that CAF would have been used if not, the CAF would be actioned.

Children with long term medical needs

The Medical Needs team provides teaching to children who are absent from school because of long term illness. The team's aim is to provide as much continuity in education as possible, taking into account the medical needs of the pupils. Schools have the responsibility to refer to the team and the Medical Needs team will require up to date medical confirmation from a GP or health authority medical consultant/psychiatrist. These pupils must remain on the roll of the school. Where appropriate the CAF would be established as an early assessment of those children and young people who miss school through their medical needs. The Medical Needs Team provides education for pupils in their homes and other venues and, when necessary, supports pupils back into school.

Children subject to a Child Protection Plan

Schools and Social Care are encouraged to make referrals to the Education Welfare Service where concerns about absences from school begin to emerge for pupils on the Child Protection Register.

If a child is subject to a Child Protection Plan and is believed to be missing then the Child Protection Co-ordinator must be informed immediately by the agency that has raised the concern.

To limit the opportunity for children to go missing when they fall out of the education system, a range of systematic processes and procedures have been developed. As children missing education may raise potential child protection issues, schools should always follow the agreed processes and procedures.

Lacey Green Primary Academy has adopted the Cheshire East Local Authority CME Policy and can be downloaded from the link below: The full up to date policy can be viewed here:

<http://cheshireeast.gov.uk/pdf/schools/cme-policy.pdf>

<http://cheshireeast.gov.uk/pdf/schools/cme-legislation-2016-ce-schools.pdf>

Review

Reviewed: January 2018

This policy will be reviewed and updated when any new guidelines and legislation are issued by any relevant bodies.