



Child In Care (CIC)

This policy was updated:
This policy will be reviewed:
Statutory policy:
Source:

October 2025
September 2026
Yes.
School

Our School Vision

Taking care, together.

Underpinning all of our core beliefs are our **Christian Values** of: Hope, Care, Community and Wisdom. These form the foundations for everything we do and are embedded across the school ethos.

In order to prepare children to become fully rounded citizens who will positively contribute to the world, we develop the children through focussing on:

- Taking care of ourselves.
- Taking care of our learning.
- Taking care of our community.
- Taking care of our future.
- Taking care with God.

This is further promoted through our 'Taking care, together'.

Ravenshead C of E Primary School is committed to valuing diversity and to equality of opportunity. In biblical tradition, children in particular are seen to hold a special place in the priorities of God. Furthermore, we hold to the foundational belief that all people are created in God's image and are intrinsically valuable. Everyone should be treated as fundamentally precious, irrespective of behaviour, achievements or potential.

Therefore, we aim to create and promote an environment in which pupils, parents/carers and staff are treated fairly and with respect and feel able to contribute to the best of their abilities. The school's biblical foundation provides a model of Christian community described as the 'body of Christ', in which everyone has a part to play, and everyone without exception has God-given gifts which are to be used for the benefit of others.

1. Policy Statement

At Ravenshead CE Primary School, we are committed to promoting the educational achievement and welfare of all children, including those who are in the care of a local authority (Looked-After Children or Children in Care). We recognise that children in care may have experienced trauma, loss, or disrupted learning, and we aim to provide them with a stable, supportive, and aspirational school environment.

2. Definition of a Child in Care (CiC)

A Child in Care is a pupil who is:

- Subject to a Care Order or Interim Care Order under the Children Act 1989.
- Accommodated by the Local Authority voluntarily (Section 20).
- In long-term foster care, residential care, or placed with family under supervision.

This includes children who are:

- In care with foster carers, family or friends, or residential settings.

- Previously looked-after children who are now adopted or under a special guardianship/residency order (also entitled to support under some policies, e.g., Pupil Premium Plus).

3. Key Aims of the Policy

- Ensure equality of access to learning and achievement for CiC.
- Provide a safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment.
- Prioritise the well-being and emotional development of CiC.
- Ensure effective communication with carers, social workers, and Virtual Schools.
- Meet statutory duties in line with DfE guidance and legislation.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Designated Teacher (DT) for Children in Care: Mrs Sarah Soley – Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion

- Maintains an overview of CiC within the school.
- Acts as the key contact for social workers, carers, Virtual School Heads (VSH), and others.
- Ensures each CiC has a robust and up-to-date Personal Education Plan (PEP).
- Monitors progress, attendance, and well-being of CiC.
- Ensures Pupil Premium Plus (PP+) is used effectively for the child's benefit.

Headteacher

- Ensures the school complies with statutory guidance.
- Oversees training and support for the Designated Teacher and staff.

All Staff

- Promote high expectations and inclusion for CiC.
- Provide emotional support and adapt teaching strategies as needed.

5. Personal Education Plans (PEPs)

- Every Child in Care will have a PEP, reviewed at least termly alongside educational professionals, social care, carers and the virtual school.
- PEPs set out clear academic and well-being targets.
- The school works closely with the Virtual School to complete and review PEPs.

6. Pupil Premium Plus (PP+)

- The school receives additional funding for each CiC and previously looked-after child.
- Funding is used to support targeted interventions (e.g., tutoring, counselling, enrichment).

- Use of PP+ is tracked and reported to ensure impact.

7. Admissions and Transitions

- CiC have top priority in school admissions.
- Support is discussed during school transitions (e.g., joining the school, moving to secondary).
- Key adults (e.g., carers, social workers) are consulted to ensure smooth transition.

8. Partnership Working

We work closely with:

- **Local Authority and Virtual School:** For education planning and support.
- **Social Workers and Carers:** To ensure coordinated care.
- **External Agencies:** Including CAMHS, Educational Psychologists, and mentoring services where appropriate.

11. Confidentiality

Information about a child's care status is shared on a need-to-know basis and handled with sensitivity and respect for privacy.

12. Complaints

Any concerns regarding the provision for a Child in Care should be addressed through the school's complaints procedure.