

**Meeting the Needs of a Child in the Care of Kent County Council**

**Kent has a duty to promote the educational achievement of children in care (CiC) and previously looked after children (PLAC). How can you best meet the child/ren’s needs?**

* Establish a quality key person relationship with the child.
* Link with Foster Carers and Social Worker to share information and establish starting points for children’s care, learning and development.
* Become involved in the Personal Education Plan (PEP) for those children in care.
* Access additional funding - Early Years Pupil Premium funding (EYPP).
* Discuss with parents and guardians the benefits of holding an EPPLAC meeting (Education Plan for Previously Looked After Children).

**What is an EPPLAC?**

Education Plans for Previously Looked After Children are a continuation of the good practices seen within the regular Personal Education Plan (PEP) reviews for Looked After Children. The purposes of the meeting will be to:

* encourage positive collaboration and communication between home and education provision
* raise awareness of the needs and issues faced by children and their parents
* review the support, interventions, and progress of the child
* identify unmet needs of the child
* discuss EYPP, in relation to the child’s needs.

**What is a PEP?**

The PEP is a statutory requirement.

It is an electronic tool which enables all professionals involved with the child to create a detailed record of learning and development in order to promote a shared understanding of children’s educational needs and strengths.

It is an evolving record of what needs to happen for the child to enable them to make expected progress and fulfil their potential. Reviews take place three times a year.

The PEP provides an opportunity for the child to contribute and their voice to be heard.

**Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)**

All children who are either in care or who have been previously looked after by a local authority are entitled to the full amount of EYPP. To access the funding, please contact:

**CiC -** Contact: Marian Smith Deputy Head, County Early Years lead - marian.smith@kent.gov.uk or VSKearlyyears@kent.gov.uk

**PLAC -** Contact: Victoria Bentley 03000 421 612 miearlyyears@kent.gov.uk

Organise payment of EYPP Early Years Pupil Premium

**Virtual School Kent (VSK) Contact Details**

VSK (Virtual School Kent)

Early Years and Childcare - Equality and Inclusion Team.

**For Children in Care - Fostering Education Liaison Officer (FELO)**

**Contact your area FELO when children are admitted to the setting.**

Jenny Finch 03000 411 977 Sevenoaks, Swanley, Dartford and Gravesham and Medway

Julia Griggs 03000 418 620 Dover, Folkestone & Hythe, and Canterbury City

Jan Dimond 03000 419 184 Thanet and Canterbury Coastal

Sam Oxberry 03000 418 713 Swale and lead for post 16

Annie Cetal 03000 416 820 Ashford, Maidstone, Tonbridge & Malling and Tunbridge Wells

Steve Orwin 03000 418 712 Steve and Annie job share the above districts

**Area Admin**  North and West 03000 412 777 South and East 03000 421 157

**For Previously Looked After Children - Education Support Officer (ESO)**

**Contact for support and advice where an adopted child’s parent request an Education Plan (EPPLAC)** vskplac@kent.gov.uk

**For further advice and support please contact your Equality & Inclusion Adviser** Here is the [**new** **electronic request form**](https://kentcc-self.achieveservice.com/service/Equality_and_Inclusion_Request_for_Support_form_Process) to complete; follow link or go to this page: <https://www.kelsi.org.uk/early-years/equality-and-inclusion/equality-and-inclusion> to find the form.

**Useful Links**

<http://www.virtualschool.lea.kent.sch.uk/>

[www.kentcarestown.lea.kent.sch.uk](http://www.kentcarestown.lea.kent.sch.uk/)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-the-education-of-looked-after-children>

http://www.virtualschool.lea.kent.sch.uk/plac/school

Further Reading/Useful links

<https://adoptmum.wordpress.com/2015/05/17/getting-the-best-for-adopted-children-in-school/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/looked-after-children-living-away-from-their-home-area-from-a-distance>

<http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/gid-cgwave0675/resources/childrens-attachment-draft-guideline-nice2>

A publication on attachment “Understanding why” can be accessed from [www.ncb.org.uk](http://www.ncb.org.uk) or try this link: <https://www.familieslink.co.uk/download/july07/Attachment%20needs.pdf>

 

