

10 things you should know about Education Support for Looked After Children



The Education Support for Looked After Children (ESLAC) team is part of Northumberland's Virtual School for Looked After Children. Our Virtual Headteacher is Jane Walker.

When a child comes into care it is our role to support that child to achieve well in school. Personal Education Plans (PEPs) are completed by the **ESLAC** team. We offer advice, guidance and support to young people, schools, carers and other professionals.

1

Every child who comes into care has a PEP completed by an Education Support Worker (ESW). The plan is then reviewed every six months for as long as the pupil is in care. Pupils are encouraged to attend their PEP meetings and to share their views.

2

Every team member is a champion for children in the care of Northumberland local authority, challenging attitudes and ensuring that there is equal access to resources and opportunities.

3

The team monitors progress, attendance and exclusions throughout the academic year and reports on Year 11 exam results and Year 6 SATs results.

4

Training is offered throughout the year to Foster Carers and Designated Teachers of looked after children to help them support pupils in care.

5

Schools receive a Pupil Premium Plus grant for eligible looked after and previously looked after pupils to accelerate progress and improve education achievement. The grant is distributed by the Virtual School Headteacher after schools identify targets for improvement and then provide evidence of the impact that this funding has on outcomes for children.

6

ESLAC ensures that looked after pupils enjoy enrichment activities both through and at school including extra tuition, educational school trips, resources and books.

7

ESLAC has a team member who works with young people who are at risk of exclusion or who are disengaged with school. She works with schools and other professionals to ensure they receive an appropriate education.

8

ESLAC has a Careers Adviser who meets with young people who choose not to stay at school Post-16 to discuss and develop pathways into further education, training and employment.

9

The ESLAC team is supported by an Educational Psychologist to work directly with children and to develop training for designated teachers, foster carers and all Virtual School team members.

10

ESLAC celebrates achievement in national tests and examinations, but also rewards good attendance, effort and progress.



EDUCATION SUPPORT
FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN



01670 622779



Webpage:
[Inclusion and the Virtual School](#)



Toni McGuire



toni.mcguire@northumberland.gov.uk
eslac.info@northumberland.gov.uk



Education and Skills Service
Wellbeing and Community Health
Services Group
County Hall, Morpeth
NE61 2EF