



# Learn Achieve Celebrate

## Information and guidance

for Designated Teachers of Looked After and Previously Looked After Children in Northumberland

February 2019

Hello and welcome to your half term briefing from the Virtual School Headteacher, highlighting the essential things you need to know right now to fulfil your role as Designated Teacher. Contact us if you would like to discuss anything further. A full newsletter will follow at the end of term.

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">SEND</p>	<p>Are you referring a looked after child for statutory assessment of their special educational needs? If so can you make sure that you <b>attach a hard copy of the child's PEP to the COSA form</b>. The PEP is a statutory education support plan and should form the basis of any referral. If it's a good PEP it will already detail the interventions which the child has experienced and evidence of the impact they have had on progress and attainment.</p> <p>If you would like support with a referral then please contact the ESLAC team.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Year 6 and Year 11</p>	<p>The SATs and GCSE/end of KS4 assessments are fast approaching and I know that intensive work is underway with our looked after children to ensure that they achieve their very best. If you have concerns about a <b>Year 6 or Year 11 pupil</b> or would like to discuss further support (including additional funding) then please contact ESLAC without delay.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Progress</p>	<p>In response to your feedback we have changed the regularity of Progress Reviews from half termly to termly. It was agreed that this would still provide us with vital information in the Virtual School to identify where support and intervention is needed swiftly to ensure that each looked after child is doing as well as they possibly can at school.</p> <p>My plea is for you to complete the <b>Progress Review</b> on time so that I can take action when necessary. You will have received a notification through each child's ePEP already to complete the <b>December/Autumn term review</b>. Those review are now overdue, so if you need any advice or support completing them can you contact ESLAC as soon as possible.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Pupil Premium + 2019-20</p>	<p>The policy <b>Pupil Premium Plus Arrangements for 2019-20</b> is now finalised and available on our webpage <a href="#">here</a> under <i>Essential information for Designated Teachers</i>.</p> <p>Please note that from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 the Virtual School will retain £700 of each grant (instead of £400) and that the remaining £1600 will be dispersed to you in 3 instalments of £400 when there is evidence that the PEP has been reviewed, and 2 instalments of £200 when the 6 monthly mutli-agency PEP reviews have taken place.</p>

<p>ePEP Quality Assurance</p>	<p>The implementation of the ePEP continues and we have made a number of changes to the online template as we receive your feedback. In March we are meeting with a group of Designated Teachers to agree a new process for <b>quality assuring the ePEPs</b>. It will involve sending you termly feedback about each PEP you have responsibility for with advice on how to get your PEPs from good to great. Further information will be shared with you via email and the next edition of this briefing.</p>
<p>Emotion coaching</p>	<p>In partnership with Achievement for All, the Virtual School is offering to all Northumberland schools the opportunity to benefit from an emotion coaching programme for all of your teaching and support staff. The programme involves between 6 and 9 half days of emotion coaching training delivered at your school and funded entirely by the Virtual School.</p> <p>Achievement for All is delighted to have been working with Virtual Schools around the country to empower schools and settings to improve their provision for looked after children and to create a positive culture and climate of wellbeing and good mental health across the whole school community. The <a href="#">emotion coaching programme</a> has been developed with the support of <a href="#">Emotion Coaching UK</a> to support whole setting implementation of Emotion Coaching as a tool to help improve wellbeing and self-regulation.</p> <p>If you would like to express an interest in being involved in the programme then please contact me, Jane Walker, by <b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019</b> for an initial discussion.</p>
<p>VSH Briefing</p>	<p>To keep you up to date with what's going on in the Virtual School and to give you the opportunity to discuss further any of the items in this briefing, I am holding a <b>Virtual School Headteacher Briefing on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March from 10am til 12pm at West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington</b>. Amongst other things I will be providing further information on support for previously looked after children and quality assurance of the ePEPs.</p> <p>If you would like to attend then please contact Yvette Arnold (see contact details below) to book a place.</p>
<p>Contact details</p>	<p>Are the <b>contact details</b> we hold for the Designated Teacher in your school up to date? If anything changes then can you please update our new ESLAC admin assistant, Yvette Arnold, on 01670 622787 or <a href="mailto:Yvette.arnold@northumberland.gov.uk">Yvette.arnold@northumberland.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>Essentials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ e-learning induction/refresher training - <a href="#">Learning Together</a></li> <li>◆ <a href="#">Designated Teacher Toolkit</a></li> <li>◆ <a href="#">Virtual School webpage</a></li> </ul> <p>Contact us - 01670 622779 or <a href="mailto:ESLAC.info@Northumberland.gov.uk">ESLAC.info@Northumberland.gov.uk</a></p>