

ROLE OF A DESIGNATED TEACHER



TIPS FROM TEACHERS:

- To develop a positive relationship with the child and get to know the child
- Help them to be confident and be able to talk about their situation
- Check in with the child regularly
- Ask the child 'what would support you?'
- To know the needs of each individual child
- Ensure that emotional support is available for the child in care
- Ensure each child gets the right support and interventions
- Help others to understand the child
- Teaching them skills to be successful socially
- Support other adults/professionals who work with them
- Monitor the progress of the child
- Liaise directly with the responsible teacher
- To act as an advocate for the looked after child and challenge decisions in the best interest of the child
- Fight to be their voice
- Ensure the smooth running of the PEP process
- To check relevant professionals input into the PEP
- To liaise with the Virtual School
- Work with other schools and agencies
- To ensure training required for individual staff
- To challenge or change policies or practice

TIPS FROM CHILDREN IN CARE/CARE LEAVERS:

- Other teachers treat us differently, we want to be treated the same as other pupils
- Teachers should be aware we are in care
- Teachers should not share information about us with other pupils
- Be there when we have problems or need someone to talk to
- Ask us how we are
- Some of us get bullied, please take bullying seriously
- Show us respect - do not patronise us
- Help us when we need some support

TOP TIPS FOR PEPS

TIPS FROM TEACHERS:

- Introduce yourself to the young person before the PEP
- Find out the child's views prior to the meetings
- Look at the timings for the meetings
- Share paperwork with the relevant people
- Make sure it is relevant to the child
- Don't make up new targets for the sake of setting targets – use the ones already available in school
- Don't be too repetitive
- Don't just focus on negatives – make sure the positives are highlighted as well

TIPS FROM CHILDREN IN CARE/CARE LEAVERS:

- We think it is important to get our views before the meetings take place
- Ask us how we would like the meeting to be structured
- We do not like being taken out of lessons for the meetings
- It needs to be more interesting or fun
- Explain the targets to us in more detail and make sure we understand what they are
- Ask us if we need more help and support
- Make us feel included – sometimes we feel that we are being talked about as if we are not in the room