

**TO: ALL DIRECTORS OF
CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Phone: 01772 531646
Fax:
Email: Louise.taylor@lancashire.gov.uk
Your ref:
Our ref: LT/JP
Date: 20 February 2015

Dear Director of Children's Services

**RE: SERVICES AVAILABLE TO LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PLACED IN
LANCASHIRE BY OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

Lancashire County Council would like to notify you about the resources and facilities available to looked after children and young people who may be placed in our county by your local authority. We hope that this information will help staff to understand and access the universal services that are available to children and young people residing in Lancashire.

Please disseminate this information to relevant professionals within your Children's Social Care Service. It would be helpful if you also passed this letter onto any of your foster carers based in Lancashire so they are aware of the services available to children and young people in our county.

In line with the 2014 amendments to the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations, 2010, if you are planning to place a child from your local authority in Lancashire and it is a 'distant' placement you should consult with us.

NOTIFICATIONS

All notifications of looked after children placed in Lancashire should be sent to: clacentral@lancashire.gcsx.gov.uk or cypsupportcla@lancashire.gov.uk



Any change of address and notifications of looked after children leaving Lancashire should also be sent to this address so we can update our records. Please ensure the notification includes any particular risks or vulnerabilities to assist staff within Lancashire in responding effectively to any issues that may arise.

EDUCATION

When a decision has been reached to place a looked after child in Lancashire please contact the admissions team as soon as possible to discuss the admissions and application process. The relevant contact emails are:

- pupilaccess.central@lancashire.gov.uk (Preston area)

Louise Taylor • Interim Executive Director for CYP
Bob Stott, incoming Director of Childrens Services
PO Box 61, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8RJ



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**



2008-2009
Improving Accessibility
2009-2010
Positive Engagement of Older People
Raising Economic Prosperity
through Partnerships
Cohesive and Resilient Communities

- pupilaccessteam.north@lancashire.gov.uk (Lancaster, Morecambe, Fylde and Wyre) (Chorley and South Lancashire)
- pupilaccess.southadmissions@lancashire.gov.uk (Hyndburn, Ribble Valley, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale)

Every school within Lancashire has a designated teacher for looked after children. Their role is to promote the educational achievement of looked after children who are on the school role.

As in all other authorities, Lancashire has a virtual school for looked after children. The Lancashire Virtual School is responsible for maximising the educational life chances of children and young people in the care of Lancashire County Council and facilitating services and support for Lancashire looked after children, young people and their schools.

The Lancashire Virtual School Headteacher works closely and mutually with Virtual School Headteachers in other authorities to ensure all looked after children and young people have appropriate school placements and educational support, and receive the CLA pupil premium grants from their home authorities wherever they reside.

Contact details:

Virtual School Head: Audrey Swann

Address: Room B38, County Hall, Preston, Lancs PR1 8XJ

Tel: 01772 532468

Email: Audrey.swann@lancashire.gov.uk

For more information please contact the Virtual School Administrator: Alison Brown on: 01772 531853 or email: alison.Brown@Lancashire.gov.uk

EARLY YEARS, CHILDCARE AND NURSERY PROVISION

Looked after children aged 2, 3 or 4 are entitled to up to 15 hours a week free early education within:

- Ofsted registered day nurseries, pre-schools or with childminders who are eligible
- Nursery units of independent schools
- Local authority maintained nursery classes and schools

The Family Information Service (FIS) provides information, support and advice about a range of family issues including choosing childcare that meets children's and family's needs and help with paying towards the cost.

For some families, finding or using appropriate childcare can be a challenge, for instance if they work shifts, if a child has special or additional needs, they live in a rural area or may be worried about leaving their child with someone else for a long time during the day.

We will explore and discuss all options available to help families and carers and assist in helping to think through everything that might be a worry and make sure that everyone is comfortable in the choices they make. We can also offer a range of extra support and can speak to childcare providers on parents and carers behalf's if needed.

Referrals can be made to the team by contacting us on:

Free phone helpline: 0800 195 0137 or by email at LancsFIS@lancashire.gov.uk. Further details can be found from the website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/family

CHILDREN'S CENTRES

There are 61 children's centres and 18 satellite delivery sites across Lancashire. These centres work closely with midwives, health visitors, schools, children's social care services, private day care providers, child-minders, GP's and other local service providers to ensure the best high quality provision and continuous support to children and their families.

Details are available from the Family Information Service on: 0800 195 0137.

HEALTH SERVICES

All children and young people placed in Lancashire by another local authority have access to universal health services including: GP, midwifery, school nursing, health visitor, speech and language therapy, smoking cessation and dental care and secondary health care services provided by Lancashire Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. To ensure full access to these services all children should be registered with a GP and dentist.

CLA Specialist Teams:

Targeted and specialist health provision is in accordance with the child or young person's health plan and is co-ordinated by three CLA Specialist teams:

East Lancashire: 01254 283380	clateam@lancashirecare.nhs.uk	Tel:
Fylde, Wyre & North Lancs: 651264	bfw-tr.CLA@nhs.net	Tel: 01253
Central Lancashire: 777220	lcn-tr.Safeguardingcentral@nhs.net	Tel: 01772

Clinical Commissioning Groups:

The three Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) will endeavour to work with the originating CCG in order to commission services to meet the child's health needs. To achieve this it needs to know the responsible CCG. Therefore, please provide the appropriate Lancashire CCG with the name of the originating CCG using the following NHS.net email accounts:

East Lancashire: safeguardingteam@nhs.net and safeguardingcommissioningteam@nhs.net for notifications of placements into East Lancashire.

Fylde, Wyre & North Lancs: FWCCG.Safeguarding@nhs.net

Central Lancashire: csrccg.safeguarding@nhs.net

Any costs associated with the provision of targeted and specialist health services will be charged to the responsible CCG.

Substance Misuse & Alcohol Services:

East Lancashire:

Services are provided by Early Break. For further information visit the website:

www.earlybreak.co.uk

Tel: 01282 604 022 or Email: info@earlybreak.co.uk

Central and North Lancashire, Fylde, Wyre:

Services are provided by Young Addaction Central Lancashire. For further information visit the website: www.addaction.org.uk,

Tel: 01772 255307 or Email: Donna Wood, Project Administrator/ Data Lead for Central & North Lancashire d.wood@addaction.org.uk.

Sexual Health Services:

East Lancashire:

Services are provided by Brook and Lancashire Care Foundation Trust, via drop-in clinics, or by appointment. For further information visit the website: [Sexual Health Services in Lancashire](#)

Preston, Chorley, South Ribble, North Lancashire and Fylde & Wyre:

Further information is available at: www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/cash

Single Point of Access: 01772 401140 (contraception booking line).

West Lancashire:

Further information is available at: <http://www.isis.sefton.nhs.uk/> . Single point of access: 01704 513303.

For information in respect of sexually transmitted infections please contact the GUM clinic on 01772 522814.

CAMHS

The two CAMHS providers in Lancashire are commissioned by Lancashire's Clinical Commissioning Groups and the County Council is an associate to these commissions. All looked after children are named as a vulnerable priority group in the contracts.

CAMHS are covered by the 'responsible commissioner guidance' and if referrals are accepted, will be charged to the original placing authority's CCG. CAMHS can be accessed through the Lancashire County Council website: www.lancashire.gov.uk or using the link below which gives details of the pathway to services:

http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/atoz/a_to_z/service.asp?u_id=1498&tab=1

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION / MISSING CHILDREN

The Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) has a child sexual exploitation (CSE) strategy, a multi-agency child sexual exploitation operating protocol and a joint protocol for children and young people who run away or go missing from home or care. These documents can be found in Lancashire's safeguarding children procedures: www.lancashire.gov.uk/safeguardingchildrenboard/

All agencies work together to provide a prompt multi-agency response to CSE to prevent sexual exploitation or respond to those at risk or experiencing CSE in Lancashire and to secure the prosecution of perpetrators. Key objectives include the identification and protection of those children and young people who are at most risk of being vulnerable, exploited, missing or trafficked and the sharing of information and intelligence in respect of adults who may pose a risk to children.

There are three dedicated, co-located multi-agency teams delivering this service. Contact Details:

- Operation Awaken (Blackpool and Fylde; Lancaster, Morecambe and Wyre): Tel: 01253 477261 Email: awaken@lancashire.pnn.police.uk
- Operation Deter (Preston, Chorley, South Ribble, West Lancashire) Tel: 01772 209122 Email: deterteam@lancashire.pnn.police.uk
- Operation Engage (Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, Ribble Valley, Ribble Valley, Pendle and Rossendale) Tel: 01254 353525 Email: engage@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

For more information please visit: www.lancashire.police.uk/cse

A new website has also been launched for young people where they can get help or advice on a range of subjects including this one: www.trusted2know.co.uk

Recent high profile cases have highlighted the risk posed to young people placed away from their home and local services. However, if you are considering placing or have placed a child or young person in Lancashire and there are concerns that they are at risk from being vulnerable, exploited, missing or trafficked, then the following is important:

- That there is a detailed care plan that addresses the specific CSE risk issues.
- That you notify the CSE team, as above of your proposed action should the young person require immediate intervention.
- In the event that the allocated social worker is notified by the placement provider or police of further risks needing multi agency management, you will be asked to provide an up to date care plan indicating how the young person will be protected and expectations from local services should they be reported missing from placement.

If a child is at immediate risk, this should be reported without delay to the Police; for emergencies use 999, or for urgent/immediate reporting: 0845 125 3545 or 101 as well as making contact with Lancashire Children's Social Care: 0845 053 0000.

The Police Missing from Home Coordinators can be contacted by email as follows:

- East-MFHCO-ORDINATOR@lancashire.pnn.police.uk
(Lancaster, Morecambe, Fylde and Wyre)
- South-MFHCO-ORDINATOR@lancashire.pnn.police.uk
(Preston, Chorley, South Ribble, West Lancashire)
- West-MFHCO-ORDINATOR@lancashire.pnn.police.uk
(Hyndburn, Ribble Valley, Pendle and Rossendale)

Please note that these email addresses are for non-urgent contact and should not be used to report a child missing from care.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY SERVICE

The majority of children and young people with special educational needs will have their support needs met through the local offer without the need for an education, health and care (EHC) plan. This could include support through the child's early years setting, school or college. However, sometimes a child or young person needs a more intensive level of specialist help. In these circumstances, the parent, carer or the child's or young person's school or other setting can request an education, health and care (EHC) assessment for the child. This assessment could lead to the child or young person receiving an EHC plan.

You can find out more in our [criteria for carrying out assessments](#).

Requesting an EHC Needs Assessment

The child's school or nursery may refer him/her to us for an assessment. Others who work with the child or young person can also tell us if they think an assessment is needed (such as a doctor, health visitor or nursery worker). Parent carers can make a referral using the following form:

[Request to carry out an education, health and care assessment](#)

The Assessment

If we decide to assess a child or young person, the assessment will decide whether they need an EHC plan and begin to outline the support they might need; what outcomes should be worked towards and what budget should be agreed to ensure that support is put in place. If they are not eligible for an EHC plan, they will be supported through an SEN support plan.

The EHC Plan

If we decide the child or young person needs an EHC plan, we will work closely with the parent/carers and the child or young person to make sure the plan takes account of their views and wishes. We will review the child's or young person's plan at least once a year.

Looked After Children with Special Educational Needs

If a child or young person is looked after and has a Statement of Special Educational Need or Education, Health and Care Plan, you must contact the

Inclusion and Disability Support Service in order to share details of the SEN and educational provision required. Contact needs to take place before a placement is made in order to support the care plan and ensure that the looked after child is not disadvantaged regarding educational provision.

Contact details

Information regarding support for children and young people with SEN can be obtained from:

Inclusion and Disability Support Service

Lancashire County Council

PO Box 61, County hall, Preston

PR1 8RJ

Tel: 01772 532713

Email: CYP IDSS IDSS@lancashire.gov.uk

WELL BEING PREVENTION AND EARLY HELP SERVICE

The service aims to provide young people with access to a range of services, exciting opportunities and positive choices through both youth work and targeted support. The service is for young people aged 12 – 19 years (up to 25 for young people with special educational needs and disabilities) in Lancashire. Support is targeted towards young people facing key transitions in their lives, including looked after children.

Across Lancashire there are Youth Zones and Young People's Centres where young people can drop in and get involved in a variety of activities and projects. Support from a Young People's Worker on a wide range of issues is also available. To find more information and where to go visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/Youthzone The Well Being Prevention and Early Help Service can provide specific careers information, advice and guidance to looked after children through a request for service from schools and/or the Virtual Headteacher.

The service also provides a telephone, text, email and web talk service called TALKZONE. Young people are able to contact TALKZONE from 10am till 10pm every day of the year on any issue that concerns them. For example, they could contact TALKZONE to find out where there is a local Youth Zone.

Contact Details:

Tel: 0800 511111 or Text: 07786 511111

Email: Talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE'S CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL

LINX is the name of Lancashire County Council's participation council group for looked after children and care leavers.

The contact number for LINX is 01772 629470.



YOUTH OFFENDING

The Lancashire Youth Offending Team (YOT) is a multi-disciplinary team comprising of workers from the Police, Probation, Children's Social Care, Health and Education who work together with local communities. The YOT works with children and young people aged between 10-17 years who are at risk of offending or reoffending.

Contact details:

Team	Office Base	Telephone Number
NORTH	Lancaster	01524 586630
	Thornton	01524 897241
SOUTH CENTRAL	Preston	01772 532047
	Chorley	01257 516051
EAST	Burnley	01282 471200
	Accrington	01254 389456
CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES	Preston	01772 532075

Full details of the Lancashire Youth Offending Team are on the Lancashire County Council website: www.lancashire.gov.uk

The Lancashire County Council website is a useful route for more information about services available in Lancashire. www.lancashire.gov.uk

ADVOCACY SERVICES

The Children's Society (TCS) in Lancashire provide Children's Rights advocacy to all children and young people who are looked after by Lancashire County Council. They also provide advocacy on a spot purchase basis for children and young people placed in Lancashire who are looked after by other local authorities. Where applicable TCS in Lancashire provide advocacy to children affected by CSE.

Contact details:

Unit 12 Eastway Business Village, Oliver's Place, Preston, PR2 9WT.

Tel: 01772 759 233

Website: www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Young people's website: www.speakoutlancashire.org.uk

CONTACT & REFERRAL TEAM / MASH

The Contact & Referral Team (CART) responds to all referrals to Children's Social Care. Lancashire has introduced a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to further strengthen our approach to safeguarding vulnerable children and adults. The MASH currently receives all referrals from the Police and through information sharing at the earliest opportunity, between Social Workers, Police, Health, Education, Probation and other key partners, ensures the early identification of risk and timely, coordinated response to children's needs, preventing escalation to statutory / crisis interventions.

All Directors of Children's Services

20 February 2015

Lancashire MASH is currently in the process of planning the second phase of its development which will involve referrals from all agencies being managed within MASH. It is envisaged that this will be in place during 2015.

If you need to contact Lancashire Children's Social Care please call: 0300 123 6720.

EMERGENCY DUTY TEAM (EDT)

To contact this service please call 0300 123 6720.

LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATED OFFICER (LADO)

The LADO in Lancashire is Tim Booth. He can be contacted on 01772 536694.

We hope this information is a helpful guide to professional colleagues working with looked after children in Lancashire.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L.M. Taylor', written over a horizontal line.

Louise M Taylor
Interim Executive Director
For Children and Young People