

Dixons City Academy

Policy Documentation

Policy: Pregnant Schoolgirls

Responsibility for Review:
Vice Principal - Ethos & Aspiration
Academy Nurse
Date of Last Review: July 2015

Pregnant Schoolgirls

Statement of Policy:

The Academy takes seriously its 'duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school' (Education Act 2002 sec 175). The welfare of the child is paramount. All children must have equal rights to protection (see Safeguarding Policy). We are committed to having in place procedures that will support informed and sensitive management of student needs. Beyond formal educational input (see Sex Relationship and Curriculum Policy), the Academy has an extensive pastoral system, comprising of the Form Tutor (who has daily contact with students), the Head of Year who maintains an overview of all aspects of the year groups progress and also an Individual Needs department (see policy) and Academy Nurse who focus extensively on supporting students.

All cases of a confirmed pregnancy must be treated differently and according to the individual student need, however, the Academy will support all pregnant school children by;

- making information available to assist in informed decision making
- supporting the student in whatever choice they make
- providing information on their options for continuing education;
 - supporting student's studies in the Academy, with home tuition and support as necessary
 - at the teenage pregnancy unit (if available)
- supporting the student's reintegration after the birth although NO childcare facilities will be provided in the Academy.

The following procedures will be followed on the confirmation of a pregnancy;

- The Academy Nurse will discuss the situation in a non-judgemental and supportive manner and establish if there are any safeguarding issues or the need for a CAF and ascertain if the parents are aware
- Any pregnancy where there are child protection issues (eg under the age of being Fraser competent or where no consent) must be immediately referred to the Named Person who will follow the procedures for a referral
- The Nurse may support the child in informing parents if the school girl wishes this to happen
- The Academy Nurse will inform the overall Named Person for Safeguarding – unless the Nurse is bound by her own code of ethics to deal directly with the area school nurse or GP
- Once all parties are aware (Nurse, parents), the Academy Nurse/IN Manager may disclose to staff on a 'need to know' basis as appropriate
- The Nurse will work with the school girl and where appropriate parents to establish how to 'news manage' within the Academy

- The pregnancy when confirmed will be referred by the Academy Nurse to the Educational Social Worker
- A risk assessment will be carried out by the Academy Nurse who will liaise with staff regarding necessary health and safety strategies, for example withdrawal from PE, leaving lessons slightly early to avoid congestion, adjusted timetable, using the lift and so on
- The school girl will continue to wear the Academy uniform and financial assistance may be given to purchase larger items of uniform. The Nurse will work with the school girl in behaving in an appropriate and discrete manner.
- At such time where school clothes are no longer appropriate and the school girl is nearing the end of pregnancy, a period of home education will commence
- Following a period at home, the school girl will be sensitively re-integrated into Academy life and a suitable modified curriculum may be considered, possibly incorporating external provision where appropriate