

policy **OUT OF HOME CARE**

RATIONALE

- Children and young people in out of home care are a diverse group who share a common experience of not being able to live with their parents. These children and young people have been subject to protective intervention by Child Protection and are subject to a range of Children's Court Orders.
- Children and young people in out of home care have a right to be protected, cared for and educated in a way that maximises their life opportunities.

AIMS

- To implement the Out of Home Care Education Commitment partnering agreement
- To outline strategies to support the educational issues and social needs of children and young people in out-of-home care
- To promote common practices across Victoria and provides a framework to monitor educational engagement, achievement and attendance
- To ensure that all parties involved work cooperatively to improve the educational experience and outcomes of children and young people in out of home care

IMPLEMENTATION

Set up a Student Support Group consisting of the following:

- The school will consult and request support from the Lookout Centre as needed
- The parent, guardian or caregiver of the child or young person (whichever is most appropriate as indicated by the DHS case manager)
- The DHS Protective Services case manager or a Community Service Organisation case manager
- The classroom teacher
- The Principal or nominee to act as chairperson
- The Student Wellbeing Coordinator and/or Student Support Service Staff
- The child or young person (where appropriate)

The student support group will:

- Develop an Individual Education Plan with input from the Student Support group and the child or young person
- All receive minutes of the Student Support group meetings
- Facilitate access to appropriate support services and programs to support the child or young person's learning and wellbeing
- Track and monitor the child or young person's achievement and attendance
- Hold meetings twice per year and more frequently if required
- Regularly review the Individual Education plan
- Support the child or young person with transition if appropriate

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle

Reference: Partnering Agreement – Out Of Home Care Education Commitment

A partnering agreement between the Department of Human Services, DEECD, CEO and Independent Schools Victoria.