

Kinship Care FAQs for Parents and Carers

How do I find out the school's processes for providing information to and from parents and carers?

- Schools will usually send out key information to parents via email, text message, letter or the school's chosen app. Information is also often repeated on social media. If you need to check how information is received, contact the school office.
- If you feel that you are not receiving key information, raise the issue with your school to ensure that you get the information in an accessible format for you.
- Schools will have processes for parents to contact the school. Again, if in doubt about who to speak to or how to make contact, speak with the school office.

How do I find out who the key members of staff are who work with my child, and how should I contact them?

- School websites can provide useful information about staffing roles and provide initial points of contact.
- If in doubt, contact the child's class teacher (primary school) or form tutor (for secondary-aged children).

- Alternatively, you can contact the school directly by phone, email or you can speak with someone at reception.
- If your child currently has a social worker, they should be able to provide you with their key contacts within the school.

How do I know which member of staff to contact about different aspects of education?

Please note that schools have different staffing structures, so advice may vary. The school's website will provide further information about your child's specific school.

- At primary school, your first point of contact would be the child's class teacher.
- If further support is needed, you may want to speak with the head of year or key stage leader.
- At secondary school, your first point of contact would be the child's tutor or head of year.
- If concerns are around a subject, you may wish to speak to the subject/faculty lead.

How do I know which member of staff to contact about different aspects of education?

Advice specific to special educational needs and disabilities

- If your child has special educational needs or disabilities (SEND), contact the special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCo). This person will have an overview of the provision for your child in school.
- Where relevant, this may include contact with external agencies such as speech and language therapists, the occupational therapist and the behaviour service.

How do I talk to the school about my child's kinship care situation?

- Be open with key staff (headteacher, SENCO) about your role and any legal orders.
- Provide documentation if needed (such as a special guardianship order).
- Ask for confidentiality and sensitivity when discussing family matters.



Is my child able to access extra funding at school?

Children in kinship care can also be a previously looked after child (PLAC). For a pupil to be PLAC, they would have been in the care of a local authority and then moved immediately to a new order of permanency through:

- adoption
- special guardianship order (SGO)
- residency order (RO) (ceased in 2014)
- child arrangement order (CAO)

If a child is previously looked after, they can receive pupil premium plus funding (PP+), which is currently £2690 for the 2026 to 2027 school year. Please follow this link: [PLAC PP Hants \(4\).pdf](#) for more information on PP+ and how it can be used to support your child's education.

Any further questions?

If you have any further questions or would like support, please contact the Virtual School Extended Duties team vsextendedduties@hants.gov.uk