

**Executive Director for Families, Children &
Learning
Hove Town Hall,
Norton Road,
Hove
BN3 3BQ**

Date: 3 June 2019

email: Pinaki.ghoshal@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Dear Director of Children's Services

I would like to take this opportunity to advise you of the services and facilities that are available for children and young people who may be placed in Brighton & Hove by other local authorities. Within the attached paper we set out the process to notify us when a child or young person is placed in Brighton & Hove or when their placement arrangements change. Also included is information about our Virtual School for Children in Care, information about accessing universal services and specialist services.

You can also [read our local offer for care leavers here.](#)

Please disseminate this information to relevant professionals within your Children's Social Work Service. We hope that this information will help professionals to understand and access the services that are available to children and young people residing in Brighton & Hove. Please also pass this information to any foster carers based in Brighton & Hove so they are aware of the services available to children and young people in the city.

It would be useful to receive similar information and contact details about services and opportunities available to any of our children looked after we may have placed in your local authority area.

Yours sincerely
Pinaki Ghoshal
Executive Director, Families, Children & Learning,
Brighton & Hove City Council.

Services available to looked after children placed in Brighton & Hove by other local authorities.

Please find below information about the resources and facilities available for looked after children and young people who may be accommodated in our area by your local authority. Further to this there are practice guidelines with regard to children from other Local authorities being placed in Brighton & Hove. It details the responsibilities and key processes to be undertaken by the Local authority for these children - [5.1.11 Children Looked After being Placed Outside Brighton and Hove and Children Being Placed in Brighton and Hove by Other Local Authorities](#)

Notifications

All notifications of Looked After Children placed in Brighton & Hove should be sent to the Safeguarding and Review Service. Please complete the attached Notification Form (see Appendix 1) and send this by email to: reviewingofficers@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

The form should also be used to inform Brighton & Hove City Council of any change of address or circumstances of the placed child including when a placement ends.

Education

Brighton & Hove schools and colleges are responsible for supporting the educational attainment and achievement of children looked after so that they are able to achieve the best possible outcomes. Each school in Brighton & Hove has a Designated Teacher for Looked After Children to promote the educational achievements of looked after children who are on the school roll.

For looked after children without a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) moving into Brighton & Hove, social workers are asked to contact our Admissions Team as soon as possible to discuss the application process. They can be contacted on: telephone 01273 293653 or email: Schooladmissions@brighton-hove.gov.uk

If the child/young person has a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an EHCP, it is important that social workers contact the Special Educational Needs Service on: telephone 01273 293552 or email: sen.team@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Brighton & Hove has a Virtual School for Children in Care and Children Previously in Care, which aims to improve the educational outcomes of children in care and Children Previously in Care, who historically have performed significantly less well than their peers. The Virtual School provides support and challenge to schools, social workers and foster carers to ensure that everyone is working towards this aim. The Brighton and Hove Virtual School holds the Pupil Premium for all children who go into care whilst residing in Brighton and Hove, irrespective of where they may then move to. For children in care placed into Brighton and Hove the Pupil Premium will be held by the authority (and associated Virtual School) into which the child was originally placed.

Virtual schools ensure that the Pupil Premium is spent to improve outcomes for children in care, based on individual need in order to close the gap. We also have a post 16 worker who is able to offer information, advice and guidance and support young people into education and training.

For more information, please visit the Brighton & Hove Virtual School for Children in Care webpage or contact the Virtual School on: telephone 01273 293992 or email: virtualschool@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Family Information Service

The Family Information Service (FIS) offers a wide range of information and advice to families in Brighton & Hove including:

- Finding childcare
- Services for families
- Financial help
- Activities for children and young people

Looked after children aged 2 are entitled to 570 hours of free childcare spread across the year in a range of childcare settings. Contact FIS to confirm the eligibility of a two year old. FIS will issue an E reference number to give to the early years provider.

All children are also entitled to 570 hours of free childcare spread across the year from the term after their third birthday.

Phone the Family Information Service on 01273 293495 or email familyinfo@brighton-hove.gov.uk
You can also search their online directory www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/fis

Children's Centres

Children's Centres in Brighton & Hove aim to improve outcomes for young children and their families and reduce inequalities. They bring together council and health services including health visiting, and midwifery. All centres provide baby groups, healthy child clinics and parenting groups. Some services are open access and others by referral including home visiting. The larger children's centres have nurseries providing high quality early education and childcare. More information about our Children's Centres can be found at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/childrenscentres

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Services

Brighton & Hove City Council, health services and all partners are committed to working together to support the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disability and their families.

Where a looked after child has an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan, the Special Educational Needs Team will maintain it on behalf of the placing authority, including carrying out annual reviews and making any relevant amendments to the EHC plan. Where possible, an EHC plan review will be linked to a review in the child or young person's care plan. The SEN Team can be contacted on: telephone 01273 293552 or email: sen.team@brighton-hove.gov.uk.

The [Brighton & Hove SEND Local Offer](#) provides clear and accessible information about provision that Brighton & Hove expects to be locally available for our children and young people from birth to 25 who have special educational needs and/or disability.

Health Services

All children and young people living in Brighton & Hove have access to universal health services.

The health needs of looked after children and young people in Brighton & Hove are monitored by our Health Team for looked after children which is a multidisciplinary team of experienced nurses and community paediatricians. The team can be contacted on: telephone 01273 696011 ext 1039.

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and the Community CAMHS team work closely together to support children and young people with emotional and mental health needs. In Brighton & Hove there is one point of referral which covers both teams. When a referral is received, a decision is made about which service would be the most appropriate using the information provided on the referral form. For more details please see the Brighton & Hove CAMHS Website.

Adolescent Service

The multi-agency Youth Offending Service

The Youth Offending Service works with young people aged between 10 and 17, their families and other relevant professionals to offer:

- support and supervision to young people involved in the Criminal Justice System
- preventative work for children and young people at risk of becoming involved in offending
- reductions in the levels of offending by children and young people.

Brighton & Hove YOS can be contacted on: telephone 01273 296169 or email: youthoffendingservice@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Specialist social work team

A specialist social work team works with young people who are highly vulnerable to exploitation. In recognition of the intensity of the work the social workers have a reduced casework

RU-OK? provides specialist tier 3 substance misuse treatment to young people under 18 where their substance misuse (alcohol and drugs) is impacting on their day to day lives. The Service offers free, confidential, expert advice and support.

RU-OK? can be contacted on: telephone 01273 293966 or email: ru-ok@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Missing Children

- [Brighton and Hove Policy on Missing Children](#)
- [Brighton & Hove Policy - Children missing from home](#)
- [Brighton & Hove Policy - Children missing from care](#)

Strategic oversight of Missing Children and exploitation is provided by the Head of Safeguarding.

Exploitation

If you have concerns about a child or young person you are placing in Brighton & Hove being at risk of exploitation please immediately contact the Front Door for Families: Telephone 01273 290400

In the eventuality that Brighton & Hove agencies become aware that a child placed by another local authority is at risk of/has suffered any form of exploitation, the responsible local authority Social Worker will be informed and invited to a multi-agency meeting.

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Youth Participation Team

The council's youth participation team is made up of the following teams:

- Advocacy
- Youth Voice (including Youth Council, Children in Care Council, Young Ambassadors, Ask Report Change Programme)
- Independent Visitors
- Accreditation (including Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Youth Arts Award)

The office is open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. For more information email: help@bhyap.org.uk