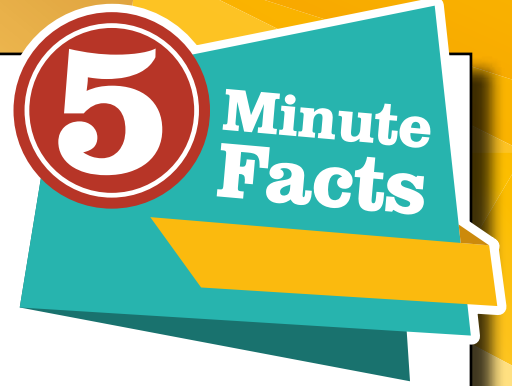


# Bolton Virtual School



**Bolton's Virtual School promotes the education of looked after Children from early years all the way to post-16. A Virtual School is not a teaching institution but a way of bringing together the educational information of all our looked after children as if they were in a single school. That way, their progress can be closely tracked, monitored and promoted. The Virtual School has a Headteacher – a statutory post within every local authority who as a senior manager within the authority can support and challenge departments, schools, and other agencies to help them do better.**

## What is it?

Virtual Schools exist throughout the country to improve the educational outcomes of looked after children and offer advice and guidance for previously looked after children and from July 2021, children and young people on child protection plans or child in need. Virtual Schools provide leadership to the local authority around the education of care experienced children providing support and challenge to the schools children attend, and ensuring they receive the help they need to prepare for adulthood.

## Within Bolton's Virtual School our main functions and aims are:

1. To monitor and track the educational progress and achievement for every child in care of Bolton's Local Authority via the use of the termly Personal Education Plan and PEP process.

2. To support schools, settings and other agencies to ensure we have high aspirations for all our children and young people.
3. To promote inclusion and equality of access for all looked after children which includes having robust procedures for all LAC to have swift access to a school placement, raising attendance and reducing exclusions.

## Our ambition:

- Ensure every child has a sense of belonging and feels part of a school setting or college community irrespective of background, needs or culture to enable them to achieve positive outcomes, in-line with Bolton's 2030 vision
- To support the wellbeing and social and emotional and mental health needs of all young people to enable them to be successful in their place of learning
- To create a culture of high educational aspirations with strong partnerships
- To ensure termly Personal Education Plans (PEPs) are up to, high-quality and focus on aspirational education outcomes
- To promote the physical, emotional and mental health and well-being of all looked after children
- Supporting the preparation of looked after children for adulthood and independent living
- Consider and act on the views of the children and young people ensuring their focus is at the centre of our work

## Key contact...

[virtual.school@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:virtual.school@bolton.gov.uk)

**All the local info I need is just a **click** away!**



[www.mylifeinbolton.org.uk](http://www.mylifeinbolton.org.uk)



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