



Grasmere Nursery School

Missing

Children in Education Statement

Spring Term 2026

Ratified by Governors on:

Signed:

To be reviewed/updated Spring Term 2027

Rationale

All children, who are 3 or 4 years old, are entitled to an education, regardless of their circumstances, under the universal early year's education fund from the Government. In addition to this, some 3 and 4 years olds are also entitled to an extended 15 hours per week. Luton Borough Council also provides fully funded education for some 2-year-old children, who met a given criteria (as discussed in our admissions policy).

Unfortunately, children missing education (CME) risk underachieving, being victims of abuse, and not being in education, employment or training (NEET) in later life.

The LA has a legal duty to identify when there are CME, of statutory school age and help them back into education. Although our children are not statutory school age, this statement has been created to support children who may be deemed 'missing in Education' and outlines the school's procedure for when this does happen.

Statement of Intent

As a maintained school, Grasmere Nursery School has a legal responsibility to enter a child onto the school's admission register on their first day of attendance. We will regularly monitor attendance and, under our safeguarding duty, will address poor attendance throughout the year, as per our Attendance Policy.

Where a child does not return to school for 10 days after an agreed absence, or is absent, without consent or awareness for longer than 20 days the school can remove the child from the school roll. In addition to this, we will take further steps to carry out some safeguarding checks on the child and family.

When a child does not return to our school, we will do our utmost to find out what has happened and to ensure that the child is safe. We will do this through the following means:

- Making contact with parents, known contacts of the family
- Checking databases held in the Local Authority (MASH)
- Calling for a welfare check from the police to the last known address ■ Follow safeguarding sharing agreements with school admissions (siblings), doctors, health visitors, SEND Team, police, as applicable, or other agencies known to the family

Review and Monitoring

The governing body will review this statement on an annual basis, in line with any recommendations from the Luton Children's Safeguarding Board. The statement will be reviewed sooner, where the school has changed its procedure or been advised for different action to take place. Any changes made to the statement will be communicated to all staff, parents and stakeholders of the school.

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Review Spring 2027