

Derry Cooperative School District

Foster Youth Care

Foster Care Point of Contact: Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Christopher Kellan

How are services coordinated with Every Child Succeeds Act of 2015 Foster Youth and Juvenile Justice Provisions?

The Derry Cooperative School District is committed to working with the Division of Children, Youth and Family Services to provide all foster students with the best and most appropriate educational experience.

Derry Cooperative School District representative will inform, consult and meet with DCYF when a situation arises around a student who is in Foster Care. The Superintendent for Student Services or their designee will attend all meetings; make educational and financial decisions in coordination with DCYF for all foster students.

How will the district help students in foster care remain in their school of origin, unless it is in their best interest to change schools?

The Derry Cooperative School District will conduct a Best Interest Determination meeting with all stakeholders including, but not exclusive to, district of origin representative, Derry Cooperative representative, DCYF, biological parents (if appropriate), foster parents, and student (if appropriate). If a student has an IEP or Section 504 then relevant school staff member would also need to participate in the best interest decision process. Transportation will be arranged in conjunction with sending district and DCYF to provide transit to the student's school of origin if it is determined that it is necessary.

How will the district ensure that when a change in school placement is necessary, students in foster care are immediately enrolled, even if they lack records typically required for enrollment: requiring the enrolling school to contact the prior school to obtain the student's records?

When a student is placed in foster care, DCYF notifies the Derry Cooperative School District's Foster Care Point of Contact, Christopher Kellan. This process happens both verbally and in written format documented through a "Notice to School District of Residential Placement Change". When contact is made, the student is immediately enrolled in the appropriate school within the Derry Cooperative School District. The school/district office then contacts the sending school to gather appropriate paperwork. A student is not denied access to school while these records are gathered by the Derry Cooperative School District.

Students in foster care are automatically eligible for Title I programs in their school.

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How will the district appoint a liaison to work with child welfare agencies regarding transportation needs for students in foster care?

The Assistant Superintendent for Student Services is the contact person for the Derry Cooperative School District for any child placed into Foster Care. The Derry Cooperative School District will work with the school of origin and DCYF to ensure that children in foster care needing transportation will be provided to their school of origin in a cost effective manner.

How will the district provide disaggregated data on foster youth?

Foster care youth that are enrolled in the Derry Cooperative School District will be identified in Powerschool, the school information system that can be access by district and building level administrators.

Contact Info: Christopher Kellan, 18 So. Main St. Derry, NH 03038, (603) 432-1215