

COVID-19 Addendum to Safeguarding Policy

OVERVIEW

The school will continue to take account of any updated advice received from the local safeguarding partners and this will include any updated advice received from local authorities regarding children with education, health and care (EHC) plans, the local authority designated officer and children's social care, reporting mechanisms, referral thresholds and children in need.

INTENTION

The way this school is currently operating in response to coronavirus (COVID-19) is fundamentally different to business as usual, however, a number of important safeguarding intentions remain the same:

1. If anyone in a school or college has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act and act immediately
2. A DSL or deputy should be available
3. it is essential that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the children's workforce and/or gain access to children
4. children should continue to be protected when they are online

IMPLEMENTATION

Whilst the school remains open to care for pupils of key workers there will be greatly reduced levels of staffing.

1. If staff or volunteers have any concerns about a child they should report the concerns to the DSL, DDSL or SLT on duty. Also record on CPOMS.
2. If the DSL, DDSL or SLT are not on site the concerns must be reported at once to the most senior member of staff on site who will contact DSL, DDSL or SLT on duty. Also record on CPOMS.
3. If it is not appropriate to that member of staff, then contact DSL/DDSL/SLT immediately.
4. When recording on CPOMS, always alert DSL, DDSL, SLT.
5. It is crucially importance that any member of staff or volunteer must act immediately on any safeguarding concerns
6. If you think a child is in immediate danger:
 - contact LA social care (EHASH) – 03003030440
 - If appropriate, call the police on 999
7. The school will continue to work with and support children's social workers and the local authority virtual school head (VSH) for looked-after and previously looked-after children
8. In the case of peer on peer abuse, the process for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims will continue to follow the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE
9. If staff or volunteers have concerns about a staff member or volunteer who may pose a safeguarding risk to children the principles in part 4 of KCSIE will continue to support how the school responds to any such concerns.
10. The school will try to endeavour to maintain its arrangements to support children that the school is concerned about who do not meet the 'vulnerable' definition
11. The procedures for keeping children not physically attending the school safe, especially online will continue to apply.

IMPACT

The care and safety of pupils will not be compromised due to the unusual circumstances that the COVID-19 Epidemic has enforced on this school. The high standards set in KCSIE will be maintained at all times. It is important that all staff and volunteers are aware of this Addendum to our policy and that they keep up to date as it is revised. This revised policy will be made available publicly via the school's website. It must be applied in conjunction with all our other safeguarding policies.