



Safeguarding Appendix

In the current pandemic, schools are operating in different ways as many pupils are home-schooled with only the most vulnerable and key worker children in attendance.

During these challenging times the safeguarding of all children at our school – whether they are currently at home or in attendance – continues to be our priority. The following fundamental safeguarding principles remain the same:

- The best interests of children continue to come first
- If anyone in our school has a safeguarding concern, they will act immediately
- A designated safeguarding lead (DSL) or deputy DSL will always be available
- No unsuitable people will be allowed to gain access to children
- Children should continue to be protected when they are online.

The safety and well-being of all pupils is paramount and the rigorous safeguarding procedures of the Trust are still central to the work of each school in the current pandemic. Our rigorous systems and safeguarding policy are still central to our work to safeguard children in our schools. However, in light of the changes to the working pattern of our schools, the following adaptations will be in place. These will ensure that our DSLs continue to have the ability to safeguard all of our families and identify any child at risk of any form of abuse.

Availability of DSLs and Reporting Concerns

In line with KSIE September 2019, our DSLs will always be available to support our children, families and staff with any safeguarding concerns. DSLs will continue to be identified on websites and around school for local communities, (*please see appendix b*).

Senior Leaders will endeavour to ensure that DSLs are present on site at all times. However, if any of the DSLs are not available on site due to the current pandemic, they will be readily contactable by any form of technology that the school deems appropriate, such as phone or Teams for example. Senior Leaders will let staff teams know the appropriate DSL to contact each day with any safeguarding concerns and co-ordinate any response should the need arise.

If it is not possible for a DSL to be available for one of our schools, then the Senior Leader of the school will work with the other schools in our Trust to ensure that there is a DSL on call to deal with any concerns that arise. Again, a member of the SLT should be available to support and co-ordinate this, so that all concerns are dealt with swiftly and effectively.

Staff will continue to report concerns in the usual way using a yellow form and hand it to the DSL immediately in line with our Safeguarding Policy. If the DSL is not on site, the member of staff will contact the appropriate DSL and discuss their concerns, so that they have the information to be able to follow the relevant protocols.

If a member of staff has concerns about the behaviour and actions of another member of staff they will follow the Whistle Blowing Policy as usual.

Working with Safeguarding Partners

Schools in our Trust can continue to seek advice from other DSLs in our schools should the need arise. Our Safeguarding Working Group will continue to meet and review the current advice and information from the relevant agencies and adapt our practices and policies accordingly.

We will continue to work closely with our safeguarding partners, and we will ensure the information contained within this annex is consistent with their advice. This will include expectations for supporting 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.

Vulnerable Children

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those children and young people up to the age of 25 with education or health care (EHC) plans.

Those who have a social worker include children who have a child protection plan and those who are looked after by the local authority. A child may also be deemed to be vulnerable if they have been assessed as being in need or otherwise meet the definition in section 17 of the Children Act 1989.

There is an expectation that vulnerable children who have a social worker will attend school, so long as they do not have underlying health conditions that put them at risk. Where a parent does not want their child to attend school, and their child is considered vulnerable, we will discuss this with the social worker and explore the reasons for this directly with the parent.

Those with an EHC plan will be risk-assessed in consultation with the Senior Leaders within the Trust and Northamptonshire Local Education Authority where relevant and parents. Together, they will decide whether they need to continue to be offered a school place in order to meet their needs, or whether they can safely have their needs met at home. This could include, if necessary, carers, therapists or clinicians visiting the home to provide any essential services. Many children and young people with EHC plans can safely remain at home.

We will encourage our vulnerable children and young people to attend a school, including remotely if needed. Senior leaders in our school, especially the DSLs know who our most vulnerable children are, and they have the flexibility to offer a place to those on the edge of receiving children's social care support.

We will continue to work with children's social workers and the local authority virtual school head (VSH) for looked-after and previously looked-after children.

Supporting children not in school

Where the DSL has identified a child to be on the edge of social care support, or who would normally receive additional pastoral support in school, vulnerable checks will be completed and recorded.

DSLs will contact the family on a weekly basis to check on their welfare. This should be recorded on a Welfare Contact Sheet and stored centrally. If during these weekly checks,

safeguarding concerns this must be recorded on a separate sheet and stored with the child's child protection records in a locked cabinet. At this time, the normal procedures should be followed and external agencies notified should the need arise.

Children who are not deemed to be vulnerable should still be checked on to ensure there are no concerns regarding their welfare.

Teaching staff should check on children in their class every half term where they are readily engaging with the learning platform. Where a response has not been recorded from a child for a significant period, a member of teaching staff should make more regular contact at the discretion of the individual school.

Mental Well-Being

As a Trust, we are fully aware of the impact that the current pandemic could have on our families' mental well-being. Therefore, our staff teams will continually promote Well-Being Wednesday's each week to provide support for pupils and their families at home. Wider curriculum opportunities will also provide further support to keep them engaged and positive in the current pandemic. Pupils who are able to access school will also have an opportunity to benefit from these experiences to support their own well-being. The well-being of our pupils and families is paramount, therefore DSLs and the staff team work with our families to support them in times of crisis, by signposting them to the relevant agencies.

Attendance

When a child does not attend school, but staff are aware that the child should be in attendance, the normal school procedures will be followed.

A member of the Admin Team will contact the parents in order of priority in the first instance. If contact is not able to be made a member of the Senior Leadership Team and DSLs will be informed to make decisions based on the Trust's Attendance Policy and Northamptonshire Missing In Education protocols if necessary

<https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/information-for-school-staff/pupil-support-and-inclusion/attendance-and-behaviour/Pages/children.aspx>. If it is deemed that a home visit needs to be made, a risk assessment must be put in place first to ensure that the health and safety of our staff and families is not compromised.

Online safety

The majority of our children will be spending more time at home, using technology to support their learning and as a means of entertainment. Our staff are aware of the signs of cyberbullying and other online risks and our filtering and monitoring software remains in use during this time to safeguarding and support children in school.

For children who are not at school and are accessing the online learning platforms that are used across the Trust, we have specifically chosen these because they provide security and support our E-Safety policy. Pupils can only access them with a code which is personal to them.

As staff teams, we will continue to follow the protocols set out in our E-Safety and Acceptable Use Policy.

Staff who interact with children online will continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. If a staff member is concerned about a child, that staff member will follow the approach set out in this annex and report that concern to a DSL.

Peer on Peer Abuse

We recognise that children can abuse their peers and our staff are clear about the school's policy and procedures regarding peer on peer abuse. All peer on peer abuse is unacceptable and will be taken seriously. We also recognise that abuse can still occur during a school closure or partial closure and between those children who do attend the school site during these measures.

Our staff will remain vigilant to the signs of peer-on-peer abuse and will follow the process set out in our Safeguarding Policy.

Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff

It remains essential that people who are unsuitable are not allowed to enter the children's workforce or gain access to children.

When recruiting new staff, we will continue to follow our Safer Recruitment policy and will follow the advice of DFE, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and EPM our HR provider to minimise the need for face to face contact in the current pandemic. In following this we will:

- Video call with new members of staff to show any necessary identification to obtain DBS, such as photo id and proof of address.
- Originals must be brought into school at the first opportunity.
- DBS is requested as usual and the relevant information recorded on the SCR.

Due to the nature of the current pandemic, volunteers will be not allowed into school until it is safe to do so.

Contractors who have to visit our schools for essential maintenance, must still undergo the relevant checks and will not be allowed into any one of our schools without the necessary documentation. We will continue to maintain our single central record (SCR) during this time.

New Children

Children may join our school from other settings. When they do, we will request from those settings the relevant welfare and child protection information. This is relevant for all children that join us, but it will be especially important where children are vulnerable.

For vulnerable children we will ensure we understand the reasons for the vulnerability and any arrangements in place to support them. As a minimum we will seek access to that child's EHC plan, child in need plan, child protection plan or, for looked-after children, their personal education plan and know who the child's social worker (and, for looked-after children, who the responsible VSH is).

Ideally this will happen before a child arrives but where that is not possible it will happen as soon as reasonably practicable.

Review

This document will be reviewed and updated as new information comes to light from the relevant agencies. In addition it will be reviewed weekly by the DSL's.

Appendix B

Safeguarding Team Pineham Barns

If you have any concerns of a safeguarding nature, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the safeguarding team, who will be happy to listen to any concerns. Thank you.



Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead

-Mrs Caroline Stewart



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

-Mrs Hannah Rogers



Designated Safeguarding Lead

-Mrs Emily Dell

Parklands Primary School Child Protection Team:

Mr Aaron McDonald
Assistant Principal
Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Shahnaz Zaman
Family Support Worker
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Ms Keziah Summers
Class Teacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss Georgie Lewis
Assistant Principal
Designated Safeguarding Lead



**MARCH 2020 - ALL SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES MUST BE CONTINUED AS USUAL.
ALL FORMS MUST BE GIVEN TO A DSL BY HAND. IF THEY ARE NOT ON SITE,
YOU HAVE A DUTY TO RING ONE OF THEM AND SHARE YOUR FORM OVER THE PHONE
IMMEDIATELY.**



Updated March 2020

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Safeguarding/Child Protection Issues?

The Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs Rachel Winstanley
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Vanessa Tear
Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead & SENCO



Mrs Liz Pearce
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss Olivia Lang

Designated Safeguarding Lead – After School
Club



If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding and/or child protection, please contact one of the members of staff listed above.

March 2020