



Benedict Biscop CE Academy

Addendum to Child Protection Policy due to the circumstances of COVID-19

Due to the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus it is necessary that all schools are prepared and have appropriate arrangements in place in relation to the management of any safeguarding or child protection concerns both on and off site during this time. Therefore, we have produced this cover note/addendum to our existing school's Child Protection Policy Template to ensure all staff, Governors and Parents understand our protocols for managing child protection concerns during this time.

Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies

On Site: While our school site remains open for vulnerable children and children of key workers, the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies are (Sarah Armstrong, Gemma Clark, Emma Whelam Tate and Lorraine Norton) and continue to be our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies due to their level of training and skill. However due to these unprecedented circumstances they may not physically be on our school site every day. In this case the following named individuals will be physically on site each day and will liaise directly with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies if any incidents of a child protection nature occur – see rota below.

Wk com 23.3.20: Matt Allison, Ben Cosgrove and Bethany Hair

Wk com 30.3.20: Sam Lockerbie, Alex Rowland and Lisa Rusby

Wk com 6.4.20: Adele Bradford, Georgina Reay and Kirsty Worth

Wk com 13.4.20: Matthew Cain, Helen Jones and Lorraine Norton

Wk com 20.4.20: Chloe Gamblin, Mark Holt, Jessica Smith and Saoirse O'Hara

Wk com 27.4.20: Lucy Tarn, Kirsty Worth and Emma Young

*Pattern to roll forward and be adapted if required in absence of staff

Off Site: While our school site is closed during these unprecedented circumstances, the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies are (Sarah Armstrong, Gemma Clark, Emma Whelam Tate and Lorraine Norton) and continue to be our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies due to their level of training and skill. While we are closed our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies will continue to remain in contact with those children who we deem are vulnerable or have a multi-agency statutory plan in place to safeguard them.

Arrangements for Contact with Vulnerable Children

Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies will continue to contact vulnerable children and their families in the following timescales if the school is closed or these children are not on site: children the subject of a Child Protection Plan (daily), children who have a Child in Need Plan (twice weekly), Looked After Children (twice weekly dependent on the child's individual placement needs) or children with an Early Help Plan (weekly). If there are any issues raised during this time regarding their care, safety or ability to be contacted then the Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy will follow their local safeguarding procedures and contact their local front door services immediately (as per our Child Protection Policy).

Together For Children contact:

- **0191 520 5560** 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday to Thursday and 8:30am to 4:30pm Friday
- Or the Out of Hours Team on **0191 520 5552** (also available 24 hours Saturday and Sunday)
- **In an emergency always call 999**

Availability and contact arrangements for families and professionals who wish to make contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies

During these unprecedented circumstances the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies will be available to be contacted by children, families and other services and agencies to ensure the safety and well-being of all our vulnerable children. They can be contacted via the school telephone number in the first instance and whether they are on or off site they will gain contact with any family or professional as soon as possible.

Alternatively, they may be contacted via the school's mobile telephone number:
07804509332

Contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies should be within the hours of the school day 8am and 5pm [including Easter period]. Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies cannot be responsible for not receiving calls and messages outside of these times. In the event that children or families need support immediately please contact our front door services immediately (as per the information within the Child Protection Policy) or contact the Police.

Response to safeguarding or child protection concerns

As always our school's duty of care is to keep children safe and while the arrangements of the physical care of children and physical presence of our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies may be different during this time the school's response remains the same and follows the guidelines as set out in our school's Child Protection Policy.

Revised 28th March 2020 in light of

DFE issued interim coronavirus (covid -19): safeguarding in schools colleges and other providers late on Friday.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers>