

**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 Sue Richardson, Duncan Clift, Andrew Robinson-Hoyle, Tanya Brown 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.

Week One – Sue Richardson

Week Two – Andrew Robinson-Hoyle

Week Three Tanya Brown

Week Four Sarah Robb, Designated DSL Duncan Clift – off site due to health vulnerabilities

Week Five – Faye Foster, Designated DSL Duncan Clift – off site due to health vulnerabilities

During the Easter holidays each designated lead will have a two day rota, this will also be recreated over May holiday

Should our school site be entirely closed then we will update our website and Child Protection Policy with our arrangements.

Arrangements for Contact with Vulnerable Children

Where our school remain open, the Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies are fully aware of those they are expecting into school each day, should that child not arrive then the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy will make contact with the parent or carer immediately and if no response contact front door services immediately.

Stockton Local Authority has adopted a pactice of risk assessment against our vulnerable pupil and has taken responsibility for the checking of these pupils. In addition to their measures we have decided that our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies will continue to contact vulnerable children and their families at least weekly for our Child Protection Plan, children who have a Child in Need Plan, Looked After Children, or children with an Early Help Plan. 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).

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. A dedicated email system has been set up that all staff can access from home. A school mobile has been set up and the number of the children’s hub has been shared and is in place on the front page of the website.

Contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies should be within the hours of the school day 9am-3.30pm ONLY. 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.

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>