

## Schools Safeguarding Service Briefing – Interim Safeguarding Arrangements during Covid-19 Pandemic

### Background

On 27<sup>th</sup> March the DfE published guidance to schools in fulfilling their safeguarding responsibilities during the pandemic restrictions. This is available at –

<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>

This briefing is intended to assist schools translate the government advice into the context of their school using the template and guidance below. This should form an addendum to your established Safeguarding Policy and be reviewed as necessary.

### St Wilfrid's CE Primary School – Covid-19 Addendum to School Safeguarding Policy

KEY AREA	CONTENT
Maintaining links with safeguarding partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The school will check briefings from the DfE, Lancashire County Council and local Safeguarding Advisers in LCC and MASH</li></ul>
Referrals to CSC and LADO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LADO Services are operating during the pandemic, using Skype as necessary and so any concerns about harm to children are subject to consultation with LADO as in normal operating.</li><li>• CSC can be contacted on 0300 123 6720 (no hot-line services) and <a href="mailto:cypreferrals@lancashire.gov.uk">cypreferrals@lancashire.gov.uk</a></li><li>• The Schools Safeguarding Advice Line and MASH Education Officers are still available and will be used for advice about threshold and wider safeguarding concerns.</li></ul>
Designated Safeguarding Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If a trained DSL (CW/AR/JWB) is not available on site then they will be available by telephone when working at home in line with the DfE guidance.</li><li>• In the event that no DSL is available to school – staff can seek further guidance from the County Safeguarding advice line 01772 531196</li><li>• Children in our setting – we will ensure that if children from another school are being cared for on our site or vice versa then links will be in place between the respective DSL functions to share information.</li><li>• We will ensure arrangements to ensure that all staff, including volunteers and any adults who are not familiar with the setting know who to speak to if they have concerns about a child.</li><li>• We will have arrangements to ensure that all adults on school site understand the schools commitment to acting immediately in response to any safeguarding concerns</li></ul>
Supporting Vulnerable Children (allocated to a social worker)	<p>We will ensure that there are arrangements in place to maintain the schools contribution to multi agency safeguarding and support for looked after children (CLA), Children In Need and children subject to Child Protection plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The school has identified by name which children are vulnerable or should be in school - including how to contact them. School has requested up-to-date contact details.</li><li>• The school has identified which children have SWs and how to contact the SW – school will agree interim safeguarding plans with the SW.</li><li>• The school has identified which children are looked after and becoming looked after and the contact arrangements for the VHT.</li></ul>

Supporting potentially Vulnerable Children (not allocated to a social worker)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have identified those children who are vulnerable but do not have a formal Child in Need Plan / allocated social worker (single agency or CAF/TAF support)</li> <li>• A spreadsheet is available to staff to request contact from one of the safeguarding team (CW/AR/JWB/DD) if they feel support is required.</li> <li>• The school is maintaining regular contact / support and identifying any concerns in such families using an interim risk assessment template which will be regularly reviewed.</li> </ul>
Peer on peer abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All class pages on the website will promote access to Childline. This will ensure that arrangements are in place to prevent and respond to any concerns related to peer on peer abuse between children who do not ordinarily attend your school or are being looked after by adults who do not know them well.</li> </ul>
Online Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking into account a likely increase in online activity, children who are not physically attending school are being safeguarded through consistent, age appropriate messages on class web pages. All staff have been given guidance on this, including being alert to signs of on-line abuse.</li> <li>• Parents are being supported to help keep their children safe online at this time through communication on our parent app, offering advice and web links.</li> </ul>
Children with specific health needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children with specific needs have care plans providing the necessary information to meet their health needs (allergies, asthma, epilepsy..etc) . This is understood by those caring for them. In the event that St Wilfrid's operates as part of a local hub, this information will be shared appropriately.</li> </ul>
Safer Recruitment & use of Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any new staff, staff relocated to the school, and volunteers understand the staff code of conduct</li> <li>• Should it be necessary, arrangements are in place to safely recruit and oversee volunteers with reference to para 167-172 of KCSIE?</li> <li>• Any volunteers will be individually risk-assessed</li> </ul>
Operation Encompass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon receipt of an Operation Encompass notification in respect of a child who is not attending, school will consider what further actions are required as they would in normal working, including speaking to parents and seeking advice from MASH / Schools Safeguarding Officer.</li> </ul>

Named person responsible for ensuring staff are aware of the above.

DSL NAME: Claire Weymouth

DATE: 2.4.20

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Named governor aware of the school's interim arrangements

GOVERNOR NAME: Mary Stoneham

DATE: 3.4.20