**SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION POLICY FOR SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION SERVICES**

**UPDATE RECENT CHANGES TO THIS POLICY** (April 2020)

This policy was reviewed and ratified by the Governing Body on 12th September 2019.

The following persons are authorised to approve minor changes between reviews:

**Chair of Governors** Frances Millet

**Safeguarding Lead Governor** Sarah Robbins

Since ratification by the Governing Body the following changes have been made –

The following additions are based on DfE guidance up to 9/4/2020 – DfE guidance issued after this date must also be applied.

Where the DfE have highlighted areas for a strengthened focus the “in my school this means that” section must be completed.

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| **Date of Change: 1st April 2020** | | |
| Addition | DfE guidance | <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings> |
| Addition | BCC guidance vulnerable children | <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/file/15896/safeguarding_guidance_during_school_closure> |
| Addition | BCC guidance for collaborative/ hub schools |  |
| Addition | DfE guidance | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools> |
| Strengthened focus | DfE guidance | The continued importance of all staff and volunteers acting immediately on any safeguarding concern.  In my school, this means that;   * All members of staff will be emailed the codicil and asked to familiarise themselves with KCSiE and the school safeguarding policy. * The safeguarding codicil will be displayed on the notice board in the staffroom. * All concerns will be recorded on My Concern, a DSL is available every day to review concerns. * Information for parents to report child protection concerns to the school during school closure can be found on the home page of the school website. * Attendance during childcare will be reported to DSL by 9.30 each day * The member of SLT ‘on call’ should then check the welfare of any child that was expected to attend, who does not. * SLT will also follow up with any parent or carer who has arranged care for their children and the children subsequently do not attend. |
| Strengthened focus | DfE guidance | What staff and volunteers should do if they have any concerns about a child  In my school, this means that;   * All concerns will be recorded on My Concern. * A DSL is available every day to review concerns either in person or online. * DSL and SLT phone numbers are posted on the board in the designated staff room. * Information for sending concerns to the school during school closure can be found on the home page of the school website. * Volunteers will be made familiar with the school safeguarding Policy approved by governors on 12th September 2019. |
| Strengthened focus | DfE guidance | DSL (and deputy) arrangements.  In my school, this means that;   * Where a trained DSL or deputy DSL is not on site, they will be on call and DSL phone numbers are posted on the staff room board. * SLT phone numbers are posted on the board in the staff room. * The DSL, on call, will communicate with the lead DSL who, if required, will liaise with social workers. Where they require access to children in need and/or to carry out statutory assessments the school will facilitate as appropriate. |
| Strengthened  Focus | DfE guidance | The continued importance for school and college staff 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.  In my school, this means that;   * The DSL on call will communicate with the lead DSL in order to liaise with children’s social workers. * Where they require access to children in need and/or to carry out statutory assessments at the school appropriate social distancing arrangements will be made. * Virtual attendance at meetings will take place, as appropriate. * Social Workers will be informed if a child does not attend school on the days expected. |
| Strengthened focus | DfE guidance | Peer on peer abuse - given the very different circumstances schools and colleges are operating in, a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims (the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE should continue to inform any revised approach)  In my school, this means that staff should continue to;  Where a school receives a report of peer on peer abuse they will follow the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE and of those outlined with the Child Protection Policy. The school will listen and work with the young person, parents/carer and any multi-agency partner requires to ensure the safety and security of that young person. Concerns and actions must be recorded and appropriate referrals made. |
| Strengthened focus | DfE guidance | What staff and volunteers should do if they 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 a school or college responds to any such concerns)  In my school, this means that staff should continue to;  Follow all procedure outlined in the school Safeguarding Policy ratified by governors on 12th September 2019. |
| Strengthened focus | DfE guidance | Any arrangements to support children that the school or college are concerned about who do not meet the ‘vulnerable’ definition.  In my school, this means that;   * A member of staff will speak to all children in the school on at least a fortnightly basis, all concerns will be passed to the lead DSL and the Head teacher will be informed. * All vulnerable children will be spoken to on a weekly basis by a member of school staff. * If necessary, a home visit will take place and the member of staff conducting the home visit will insist that they see the child. * Where a family is not responding to the work the teacher sends, this will be followed up by the teacher in the first instance; if the teacher has a concern they will inform the Lead DSL. * Concerns will be relayed to the head teacher who in collaboration with the lead DSL will decide on the correct course of action. * The member of SLT ‘on call’ should then follow up on any child that were expected to attend, who does not. * SLT will also follow up with any parent or carer who has arranged care for their children and the children subsequently do not attend.   The Department for Education has introduced a [daily online attendance form](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-attendance-recording-for-educational-settings) to keep a record of children of critical workers and vulnerable children who are attending school. |
| Strengthened focus | DfE guidance | What arrangements are in place to keep children not physically attending the school or college safe, especially online and how concerns about these children should be progressed.  In my school, this means that;   * A member of staff will speak to all children in the school on at least a fortnightly basis, online safety will be reinforced to both children and parents * If necessary, a home visit will take place and the member of staff conducting the home visit will insist that they see the child. * Where a concern is raised through referral or by staff the procedures, as laid down in the school Safeguarding policy will be followed. * Advice for parents is provided on the school website. |

**It is important that all staff and volunteers are aware of the new policy and are kept up to date as it is revised. The revised policy should continue to be made available publicly.**