Coronavirus (COVID-19) Annex
Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures

With regard updated Dfe guidance 20th May

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

The way schools are currently operating in response to coronavirus (COVID-19) is fundamentally different to business as usual, however a number of important safeguarding principles remain the same:

- the best interests of children must always continue to come first
- if anyone in a school has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act and act immediately
- a DSL should be available at all times
- it is essential that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the children's workforce and/or gain access to children
- children should continue to be protected when they are online

- where there are 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 the school responds to any such concerns)

This revised Child Protection policy and Safeguarding policy annex reflects the return of more children from 8th June 2020.

- reflecting that staff and volunteers may identify new safeguarding concerns about individual children as they see them in person following partial school closures
- what staff and volunteers should do if they have any concerns about a child, including new concerns where children are returning
- the continued importance of all staff and volunteers acting and acting immediately on any safeguarding concerns, including new concerns where children are returning
- reflecting (where resources allow) that DSLs will have more time to support staff and children regarding new concerns (and referrals as appropriate) as more children return
- reflecting the importance of ensuring relevant safeguarding and welfare information held on all children (including returning children) remains accurate. Schools (led by the DSL and/or deputy) should be doing all they reasonably can to ask parents and carers to advise them of any changes regarding welfare, health and wellbeing that they should be aware of before a child returns.

DSL Arrangements

There will a DSL on site everyday.
DSL's (Deputies) will be non-class based to provide extra support for vulnerable pupils and all pupils and families mental health and well-being.

The DSL's at school are Danielle Givens (Principal) Paula Kirk (C&FSW) Laverne O'Reilly (C&FSW)

All DSL's will be available to be contacted via phone when working from home on the days when PK or LO are not in school.

> Vulnerable Core Group meetings will continue to take place weekly on Wednesdays between DSL's and SENCO via Teams to discuss pupils vulnerabilities and families to action support where needed. See guidance on supporting vulnerable pupils
>
> https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people

Training

Online training will be our main source of training during COVID-19 and it is the responsibility of the Safeguarding Lead – Danielle Givens/ Paula Kirk to ensure staff are given regular safeguarding and child protection updates via safeguarding partners, newsletters and professional advice groups.

As a member of the RSSP collaborative, any updates from the fortnightly call in with the LA LSCP to share LA updates will be given to the DSL's where appropriate. For the period COVID-19 measures are in place, DSL's will be classed as a trained DSL even if refresher training cannot be updated by the local authority. Due to Government advice Solihull Local Safeguarding Children Partners have taken the decision to suspend the delivery of multi-agency safeguarding training.

Where new staff are recruited, they should continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction by the school.

Vulnerable Children

There is continued importance for school to work with and support children's social workers, the local authority virtual school head for looked-after and previously looked-after children and any other relevant safeguarding and welfare partners

All children classed as vulnerable have been identified through a weekly log and a risk assessment completed for them by the inclusion team.

A Weekly Social Care Return form is completed by Danielle GIvens and sent to the local authority identifying vulnerable pupils (where a child has a social worker, LAC or Previously LAC, classed as vulnerable by school), actions taken and planned actions over the forthcoming week.

Individual pupil risk assessments have been completed for vulnerable pupils (5.5.20) these will be revised prior to reopening of schools.

Vulnerable Children Status Report submitted to LA (1.5.20) this will be revised prior to reopening of schools.

Pupils who have mental health needs such as anxiety and depression

Support includes:

- Teacher contact with pupils to check on well-being via school email systems. Staff aware of safeguarding procedures to follow if they have concerns about a pupils' welfare
- Support from DSL's including the provision of supportive materials and weekly telephone calls
- Links to support available on school website, including Young Minds and Childline
- Regular review to monitor whether risk is increasing by pupil remaining at home and provision of school place if required
- Referral to SENCO/DSL's via My Concern to access Solar/ SEMH support for the pupil as appropriate

Pupils who are at risk of peer on peer abuse, including cyber-bullying

- Referral made to DSL's via My Concern
- regular review to monitor whether risk is increasing by pupil remaining at home and provision of school place if required
- Meeting with parents via Teams or via phone call to inform/ gain information about any peer on peer abuse/cyber bullying.

- the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE should continue to inform this practise

Attendance

- for vulnerable children who have a social worker, attendance is expected unless the child/household is shielding or clinically vulnerable (see the advice set out by Public Health England on households with possible coronavirus infection and shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as clinically extremely vulnerable
- for vulnerable children who have an education health and care (EHC) plan, attendance is expected where it is determined, following risk assessment, that their needs can be as safely or more safely met in the educational environment

- for vulnerable children who are deemed otherwise vulnerable, at the school, college or local authority discretion, attendance is expected unless the child/household is shielding or clinically vulnerable (see the advice set out by Public Health England on households with possible coronavirus infection and shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as clinically extremely vulnerable

School will continue to complete the online Educational Setting Status form which gives the Department for Education daily updates on how many children and staff are attending.

Where a child moves school data must be transferred as soon as is reasonable possible to the new school. This will be the responsibility of the DSL's and/or SENCO where appropriate.

Safer Recruitment

Where recruiting new staff, safer recruitment processes will be followed, including, as appropriate, relevant sections in part 3 of KCSIE. In response to coronavirus, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) has made changes to its guidance on standard and enhanced DBS ID checking to minimise the need for face-to-face contact.

There is no requirement to obtain a new DBS check for returning staff who have continued to be employed but have not been working in regulated activity during partial school closures. If for any reason the school or college have concerns about the individual, they may obtain a new check in the usual way.

Mental Health

The Dfe guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-and-behaviour-in-schools--2 sets out how mental health issues can bring about changes in a child's behaviour.

Following the reopening of schools the main focus will be on provision to support pupils mental health and well-being.

- Whole school SMILE resources
- Jigsaw recovery plan resources are to be used. See (reopening resources folder in the w:drive).

Where pupils continue to learn at home

- Jigsaw recovery plan resources will be made available via the website
- calls home made to pupils weekly. See letter to staff regarding protocol for phone calls to parents. Staff letter phone calls to parents during COVID-19

Any individual actions taken to support pupils following concern about pupils mental health and well-being directly in relation to COVID-19 must be reported and actioned on My Concern with a COVID-19 flag. This includes observations, actions, behaviours, contact with parents, referrals to external agencies, copies of documentation uploaded to 'File' in My Concern and intervention to support the pupil and their family.

Online Safety

Smith's Wood Primary Aacdemy recognises:
- the increasing role technology has to play in education and children's daily lives during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- the wide-range of content which is available to children via the internet
- that alongside the benefits of technology, there are also risks

Maintenance of safe IT provision is recorded and actioned by ICT Manager David Mallinder overseen by DSL's and Phill Wright. In the absence of the ICT manager, support will be provided by the local authority.

Online safety curriculum support

- Jigsaw Recovery plan resources online safety sections
- ThinkUKnow resources used in school
- KiVa online safety lessons
- KS2 Be Internet Legends
- Twinkl Online Safety Units of work
- DigiSafe daily daily activities for pupils to complete about online safety

Online safety support

- Updates provided to parents via National Online Safety guides
- Safer Schools app Parent code **6903**
- Parent Zone
- ThinkUKnow Home Activity Packs home support
- Childnet parent and carers conversation guidance about online safety
- NSPCC Online Safety guidance for parents
- Internet Matters provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world
- London Grid for Learning has support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online, including tips to keep primary aged children safe online
- Net-aware has support for parents and carers from the NSPCC and O2, including a guide to social networks, apps and games
- Let's Talk About It has advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation
- UK Safer Internet Centre has tips, advice, guides and other resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online services

Government has also provided:

- [support for parents and carers to keep children safe from online harms](#), includes advice about specific harms such as online child sexual abuse, sexting, and cyberbullying
- [support to stay safe online](#) includes security and privacy settings, blocking unsuitable content, and parental controls

All staff who interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any concerns reported through My Concern and actions by DSL's followed up with appropriate referrals to social care and where necessary the police.

The [UK Safer Internet Centre's professional online safety helpline,](#) email [helpline@saferinternet.org.uk](#) or telephone 0344 381 4772 provides support for the children's workforce with any online safety issues they face.

- [Childline](#) - for support
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - to report and remove harmful online content
- [CEOP](#) - for advice on making a report about online abuse

Remote education see COVID-19 update from Dfe https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-and-remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19

Virtual Assemblies/ lessons

There is no expectation that teachers should live stream or make pre-recorded videos.

- Where Teams calls are made from home staff are encouraged to blur the background screen

Safeguarding Supervision

We recognise that during this period of partial school closure and school closure, the challenges faced by all staff and volunteers will be significant. In particular the members of the school's safeguarding team will also be faced with additional challenges. Where possible, opportunities for safeguarding supervision will be provided for the members of the safeguarding team and any additional staff who require further support. The aim of this supervision will be to support staff at a time when working to keep children safe is even more demanding and emotionally draining than usual.

- All staff are contacted weekly to check on their well-being both in person and by email.
- All staff are encouraged to respond to their weekly calls/emails from appropriate channel Year Leads/ Admin team leader/ Business Manager to Site Team/ Head teacher to SMT/ SMT to Year Leads to support staff mental health and well-being during these challenging times.
- Staff who may need additional support are signposted to HR and support agencies
- All staff will have a return to work form requested from LA by SMT on the reopening of school and a risk assessment completed if this is deemed necessary.
- The Chair of Governors is in contact with the Head Teacher as required to check on staff wellbeing.

This policy annex is to be read in line with the school Child Protection Policy

This policy annex to the Child Protection and Safeguarding policies (May 25th) is to be made available to all staff and governors.

It will be made available to all parents via the school website.