

Addendum to Child Protection Policy COVID-19 school reopening arrangements for Safeguarding and Child Protection at Duke Street Primary School

Date: 9/6/2020

Safeguarding and Child Protection during Covid 19

The government have recently written guidance on the COVID 19 pandemic to support the wider opening of schools. This is being updated regularly as and when they make decisions. Staff should be reminded that regardless of how many children are in school our safeguarding responsibilities are paramount. Staff should ensure they keep themselves up to date by reading the Coronavirus Daily Update.

Our work continues to be underpinned by the statutory guidance [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) (2019) which you should all have read and understood previously. The Prevent Duty is also still in place. The SLT have devised risk assessments for a wider opening which mean bringing together our Health and Safety Policy and Safeguarding Policy.

When children begin to return to school staff may become aware of new safeguarding concerns. If this is the case then staff need to follow the existing safeguarding policy and procedures. Staff also need to ensure safeguarding information is accurate. This is helped by our CPOMS recording system. DSL arrangements are shared by Rachel Von-kaenel (DSL) and Emma Robinson (Back up DSL). Safeguarding staff will be available in the staff room during school hours or on the telephone when out of the office or working from home. If the DSL is unreachable then staff need to discuss their concerns with a member of SLT.

If staff have concerns about other members of staff they can continue to use the whistleblowing policy. This is attached to this email or on the safeguarding notice board in the staff room.

Duke Street Primary School will continue to collaborate with other agencies in order to support our children and families. This includes Children's Social Care, Health and other organisations.

DSL's and Outreach should provide support to children who are not yet returning to school and wherever possible should speak directly to children and parents to identify any concerns.

DSL's should do what they can to keep up to date with safeguarding developments.

Attendance – The children expected in school are those with a social worker, those with an EHCP and those classed as vulnerable. Vulnerable children should attend where appropriate. School should work with families to ensure the child attends school.

Recent research by Young Minds has shown that current events are affecting the mental health of children and their parents. School should be able to identify and support those affected.

Online safety will continue to be implemented in line with the existing policies. Duke Street Primary will provide regular information to parents about keeping their child safe online.