

**Schools Safeguarding – Interim Safeguarding Arrangements during Covid-19
Pandemic 2020/2021**

Background

In January 2021 National lockdown was announced by the Government and schools closed apart from young people classed as vulnerable and the children of critical workers. All other pupils and students should not attend and should learn remotely until at least February half term 2021.

**OSWALDTWISTLE SCHOOL – Covid-19 Addendum to School Safeguarding Policy –
January 2021**

KEY AREA	CONTENT
Maintaining links with safeguarding partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school will check briefings from the DfE, Lancashire County Council and local Safeguarding Advisers in LCC and MASH on a regular basis
Remote Online learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oswaldtwistle school will provide on site provision for young people classed as vulnerable and the children of critical workers – this provision will be full time 8.45am to 2.15pm Monday to Friday, or bespoke individualised timetables to meet each young persons’ needs. Oswaldtwistle school will offer a full time place for families who do not have access to the Internet – this again will be full time 8.45am to 2.15pm Monday to Friday, or bespoke individualised timetables to meet each young persons needs. Oswaldtwistle school will provide quality, face to face online learning to young people working from home – this will be full time with scheduled lessons throughout the week For each young person not coming into school and accessing online learning, contact will be made with families twice a week by phone and via Teams to ensure that they are safe and that there are no issues.
Referrals to CSC and LADO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. CSC can be contacted on 0300 123 6720 (no hot-line services) and cypreferrals@lancashire.gov.uk The Schools Safeguarding Advice Line and MASH Education Officers are still available and will be used for advice about threshold and wider safeguarding concerns.
Designated Safeguarding Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A trained DSL will ALWAYS be available to discuss any concerns and to make the appropriate referrals - In an exceptional circumstance where this is not the case please contact Julie Walker Julie.walker@oswaldtwistle.org or Sandra McKenna Sandra.mckenna@oswaldtwistle.org

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff can also seek further guidance from the County Safeguarding advice line 01772 531196 • 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. • 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. • We will have arrangements to ensure that all adults on school site understand the school’s commitment to acting immediately in response to any safeguarding concerns
<p>Supporting Vulnerable Children (allocated to a social worker)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangements are 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. • Using the child’s PEN picture and information from Behaviour Watch, DSLs can identify by name which children are vulnerable or should be in school - including how to contact them. • Oswaldtwistle School will request and maintain up-to-date contact details. • Oswaldtwistle school has ensured that there are arrangements to identify which children have SWs and how to contact the SW – school have agreed interim safeguarding plans with the SW. • Oswaldtwistle school has ensured that we can identify which children are looked after and becoming looked after and the contact arrangements for the VHT
<p>Supporting potentially Vulnerable Children (not allocated to a social worker)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSLs will review those who are vulnerable but do not have a formal Child in Need Plan/ allocated social worker (single agency or CAF/TAF support) • Staff will alert DSLs directly and via Behaviour Watch any concerns that arise from communication / lack of communication and the DSL team will review what support is required • Staff will be maintaining contact via email and phones with students and families • We will adapt Lancashire Children's Social Care interim risk assessment template once finalised • Staff from Oswaldtwistle school will make regular welfare check telephone calls to all students and every student can access the school’s online learning platform and make contact with staff regarding any issues/ questions about the work that has been set.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where we have concerns for a young person due to not being able to make contact with the family or worries that come out of conversations with parents or carers, we will make a home visit and if this is unsuccessful, will request a welfare check from the Police. This will be done by ringing 101 or emailing the control room directly.
Peer on peer abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff in their regular communication will use our normal guidelines and policy around peer on peer abuse including alerting the DSL team. Peer on Peer Abuse- as pupils are not in school parents will be advised to report any concerns of harassment or online or face to face bullying to the police. This can be done by ringing 101.
Online Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online safety guidance is published on the website and staff will signpost parents and students to this. Students and families will be asked to alert DSL Julie Walker – Julie.walker@oswaldtwistle.org of any online safeguarding concerns
Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We also know that Parent’s Mental Health could be affected by the current situation, they can access: Samaritans – 116123 jo@samaritans.org - Other Support: Children’s Social Care if parents are struggling 0300 123 6720 (0330 123 6722 outside working hours). In cases where we feel that a pupil’s mental health is deteriorating we will recommend a referral to the Crisis Team. Where we have immediate concerns for pupils and parents feel they can’t keep their child safe we will recommend that parents contact the ambulance service/ Police on 999. Young People can access Kooth.com online - Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people Staff have access to the Education Support Partnership for any issues with stress, Mental Health issues, Financial and Legal issues, relationship breakdown, anxiety, bereavement etc – support is 24/7 365 days of the year. There are several websites published on the school website for parents to contact in relation to their own or their child’s mental health wellbeing and anxiety:- examples of these are <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Papyrus Hopeline – 0800 0684141 – help for suicidal thoughts www.youngminds.org.uk Information for children and young people about mental health and wellbeing. Free 24/7 crisis messenger – Text YM to 85258 www.kooth.com – online counselling 24/7 365 days of the year for young people www.childline.org.uk Free confidential service to help young people under 19 years of age with any issue they are going through – Helpline 0800 11 11

	<p>5. www.themix.org.uk The Mix’s Crisis Messenger text service is available 24/7 and open to anyone aged 25 or under living in the UK. If you are in crisis and need to talk, text THEMIX to 85258: Helpline 0800 808 4994</p>
Contacts for Parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childline – for support – 0800 11 11 • UK Safer Internet Centre – to report and remove harmful online content • CEOP – for advice on making a report about online abuse • Internet matters – for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online • Refuge – Domestic Abuse Support – 0808 2000 247 • Net-aware – for support for parents and carers from the NSPCC • Parent info - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online • Thinkuknow for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online • UK Safer Internet Centre – advice for parents and carers
Children with specific health needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any medical or specific health needs of students coming into school will be relayed to the staff working on site. • Care Plans are in place for specific health needs such as Diabetes, asthma etc
Safer Recruitment & use of Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this period we are not using any volunteers in school and other agencies are not coming into school
Free School Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Families on Free School Meals • Families who are eligible for free school meals may be provided with access to shopping vouchers redeemable at a supermarket of their choice. These vouchers will be accessed via text message and email on a weekly basis – until this is in place food is being delivered to eligible students every day.
Operation Encompass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where we receive an Operation Encompass update as DSLs we will decide the appropriate best steps, and this may include speaking to parents, social workers and seeking advice from MASH / Schools Safeguarding Officer

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

DSL NAME: Julie Walker

DATE: 15th January 2021

Named governor aware of the school’s interim arrangements

GOVERNOR NAME: Michael Clack

DATE: 15th January 2021