



Venerable Bede

CE Academy

Dayspring Trust



Addendum to CP policy March 2020

Venerable Bede CE Academy - Addendum to Child Protection Policy due to the circumstances of COVID-19

Due to the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus it is necessary that all schools are prepared and have appropriate arrangements in place in relation to the management of any safeguarding or child protection concerns both on and off site during this time. Therefore, we have produced this addendum to our existing Child Protection Policy to ensure all staff, directors and parents understand our protocols for managing child protection concerns during this time.

Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies

On Site: While our school site remains open for vulnerable children and children of key workers, the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies are Richard Goodman (Designated Safeguarding Lead) and Jason Exley/Sally Holt (Deputy Safeguarding Leads). However due to these unprecedented circumstances they may not physically be on our school site every day. In this case, a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will be physically on site each day and will liaise directly with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies if any incidents of a child protection nature occur. Contact the main office on 0191 5239745 to speak to the member of Senior Leadership Team during office hours.

Should our school site be entirely closed then we will update our website and Child Protection Policy with our arrangements.

Arrangements for Contact with Vulnerable Children

The school's Senior Leadership Team, including the Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies, are fully aware of their vulnerable children and those they are expecting into school each day, should that child not arrive then the member of SLT on duty that day will make contact with the parent or carer immediately. Any issues that arise will be directed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputies who will liaise with social care if necessary.

The safeguarding team, including the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies will continue to contact vulnerable children and their families in the following timescales for those children who are not on site:

- Children the subject of a Child Protection Plan (three times a week)
- Children who have a Child in Need Plan (twice weekly)
- Looked After Children (three times a week)
- Children where there is currently a CP/CIN assessment underway (twice weekly)
- Children with an EHCP (weekly)
- Children with an Early Help Plan (weekly)

If there are any issues raised regarding the child's care, safety or ability to be contacted then the Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy will follow their local safeguarding procedures

and contact the Local Authority's front door services immediately (as per our Child Protection Policy).

Availability and contact arrangements for families and professionals who wish to make contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies

During these unprecedented circumstances the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies will be available to be contacted by children, families and other services and agencies to ensure the safety and well-being of all our vulnerable children. They can be contacted via the school telephone number in the first instance and whether they are on or off site they will gain contact with any family or professional as soon as possible.

The School Reception telephone number is: 0191 5239745.

The school's office staff will then make contact with either the Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputies.

Contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies should be within the hours of the school day 9am-3.30pm ONLY (including over the Easter holiday). Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies cannot be responsible for not receiving calls and messages outside of these times. In the event that children or families need support immediately please contact the Local Authority front door services immediately (as per the information within the Child Protection Policy) or contact the Police.

Response to safeguarding or child protection concerns

As always our school's duty of care is to keep children safe and while the arrangements of the physical care of children and physical presence of our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies may be different during this time the school's response remains the same and follows the guidelines as set out in our school's Child Protection Policy.

Issued 30.3.20

In light of

DFE issued interim coronavirus (covid -19): safeguarding in schools colleges and other providers late on Friday.

<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>