

Steeton Primary School



Addendum to Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Policy 2020/2021 in case of full or partial closure due to Covid 19

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1. Context

School Reopened Fully for all children from 3rd September 2020. In case of Partial Closure (due to having to close a 'bubble' on DFE recommendations or a full closure due to Government Policy the following is in place.

This addendum of Steeton Primary School Safeguarding and Child Protection policies contains details of our individual safeguarding arrangements in the following areas:

2. Certain basic principles remain unchanged;

- the best interests of children must continue to come first. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Professional curiosity remains important.
- if anyone in a school or college has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act immediately and follow policy in recording, reporting and information sharing.
- a DSL or deputy should be available and arrangements made to continue to communicate regularly with each other as a safeguarding team.
- 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 online
- communication within school and between agencies is vital

As far as is reasonably possible we will continue to provide a safe environment for children and to have whole school regard to the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020. KCSIE.

Current COVID 19 government guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings>

3. Vulnerable children

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those children and young people up to the age of 25 with education, health and care (EHC) plans.

Those who have a social worker include children on Child Protection CP, those who are Child in Need CIN and those who are Looked After Children LAC or Children in Care CIC in West Yorkshire.

We will encourage all our vulnerable children and young people to attend school. Communication with other agencies will be vital in this period.

4. Attendance monitoring

Where possible we will continue to complete their usual day-to-day attendance processes to follow up on non-attendance.

If we have any children in attendance we will submit the daily attendance sheet to the DfE by 2:00pm.- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-attendance-recording-for-educational-settings>

We will follow Government guidelines if school is informed it has to close to all children. To support the above, we will, when communicating with parents/carers and carers, confirm emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available.

5. Designated Safeguarding Lead

See named contacts in Policy

The optimal scenario is to have a trained DSL (or deputy) available on site. Where this is not the case a trained DSL (or deputy) will be available to be contacted via phone or online video - for example when working from home.

Where a trained DSL (or deputy) is not on site, in addition to the above, a senior leader will assume responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.

This might include updating and managing access to recording systems/ child protection online management system CPOMS and liaising with the offsite DSL (or deputy) and as required liaising with children's social workers.

In certain circumstances it may be possible to use DSL's in other schools for support and advice.

It is important that all staff and volunteers have access to a trained DSL (or deputy). On each day, the staff on site will be made aware of who that person is and how to contact them.

The DSL will continue to engage with social workers and other agencies, and attend all multi-agency meetings, which can be done remotely.

Those trained as DSL's will continue in the role even if training is due to expire. DSL teams should continue to regularly keep in touch with each other, via Zoom etc.

6. Reporting a concern

Where staff have a concern about a child, including those they feel require any additional support during this period, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the school Safeguarding Policy.

In the unlikely event that a member of staff cannot access their CPOMS from home, they should phone then email the Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or deputy. This will ensure that the concern is received.

Staff are reminded of the need to report any concern immediately and without delay.

If there is any issue contacting the DSL, a senior member of the leadership team can be contacted.

If this cannot be done contact **CHILDRENS INITIAL CONTACT POINT** on 01274 435600 during working hours (8:30am to 5pm). Or **EMERGENCY DUTY TEAM** Out of Hours 01274 431010. Reporting to **CHILDRENS INITIAL CONTACT POINT** arrangements will operate as usual.

Where staff are concerned about an adult working with children in the school, they should immediately report the concern to the Head of School. If there is a requirement to make a notification to the Head of School whilst away from school, this should be done verbally and followed up with an email.

Concerns around the Head of School should be directed to the Chair of Governors. Reporting to LADO arrangements will operate as usual.

7. Safeguarding Training and induction

All existing school staff have had safeguarding training and have read part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020). The DSL should communicate with staff any new local arrangements which may arise, so they know what to do if they are worried about a child.

Where new staff are recruited, or new volunteers enter our school, they will continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction. Volunteers will be risk assessed as per usual guidance.

8. Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff

It remains essential that people who are unsuitable are not allowed to enter the children's workforce or gain access to children. When recruiting new staff, we will continue to follow the relevant safer recruitment processes for their setting, including, as appropriate, relevant sections in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020).

9. Online safety in schools and colleges

We will continue to provide a safe environment, including online. This includes the use of an online filtering system.

Where students are using computers in school, appropriate supervision will be in place. DSL's will consult with the national Professional Online Safety Helpline 0344 3814772 if required.

10. Children and online safety away from school and college

It is important that all staff who interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns should be dealt with as per the Child Protection Policy.

Online teaching should follow the same principles as set out in the code of conduct and Safer Working Practice guidelines for those working in education settings.

We will ensure any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements.

Below are some things to consider when delivering virtual lessons, especially where webcams are involved:

- No 1:1s, groups only
- Staff and children must wear suitable clothing, as should anyone else in the household.
- Any computers used should be in appropriate areas, for example, not in bedrooms
- The live class should be recorded so that if any issues were to arise, the video can be reviewed.
- Live classes should be kept to a reasonable length of time,

- Language must be professional and appropriate, including any family members in the background.
- Staff must only use platforms specified by senior managers and approved by our IT network manager / provider to communicate with pupils

All this is set out in communication to parents about remote online home learning.

11. Supporting children not in school

We are committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all our students.

For those children with an allocated worker, regular communication and joint planning must take place. We will work closely with all other involved agencies.

We recognise that school is a protective factor for children and young people, and the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents/carers. Teachers need to be aware of this in setting expectations of pupils' work where they are at home. Staff will be alert to signs of decreasing mental health and refer accordingly.

It is also recognised that other safeguarding issues are like to rise in these unprecedented circumstances including but not limited to;

Neglect

Sexual abuse

Physical abuse

Emotional abuse

Domestic Abuse – including coercive control

Parental conflict

Substance misuse

Online issues – including gaming, gambling, grooming and radicalisation

12. Supporting children in school

If we are advised to keep school open for key worker/vulnerable groups only

We will continue to be a safe space for children to attend and flourish. The SLT will ensure that appropriate staff are on site and staff to pupil ratio numbers are appropriate, to maximise safety.

We will refer to the Government guidance for education and childcare settings on how to implement social distancing and continue to follow the advice from Public Health

England on handwashing and other measures to limit the risk of spread of COVID19.

Where school has concerns about the impact of staff absence – such as our Designated Safeguarding Lead or first aiders – we will discuss them immediately with SLT and the LA.

13. Peer on Peer Abuse

We recognise that during the closure a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims.

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 within of the Child Protection Policy.

The school will listen and work with the young person, parents/carers and any multi-agency partner required to ensure the safety and security of that young person.

Concerns and actions must be recorded and appropriate referrals made

14. Support from the Local Authority

We will continue to adhere to advice given by the LA.