



## **Safeguarding/Child Protection Addendum during school closure - Covid-19**

Due to the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus it is necessary that West Bridgford Infant School is prepared and has 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 cover note/addendum to our existing Child Protection Policy to ensure all staff, Governors and parents understand our protocols for managing child protection concerns during this time.

### **Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies**

**On Site:** While our school remains open for vulnerable children and children of key workers, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Ms Stevens ) and Deputy (Mrs Cutts) will continue to fulfil their roles and they continue to be our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputy due to their level of training and skill. Most days one of the DSLs will be on site. However, due to these unprecedented circumstances there may be times when neither of them will be physically in school. When this is the case they will always be contactable by phone.

If any incidents of a child protection nature occur, a member of the safeguarding team will ensure all policy and procedure is followed.

### **Provision, policy and procedures.**

These will be regularly reviewed and updated in line with government directive.

Should our school be entirely closed then we will update our websites and Safeguarding Policy accordingly.

### **Arrangements for Contact with Vulnerable Children**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy are fully aware of their vulnerable children and those they are expecting into school each day. Should that child not arrive then the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy will make contact with the parent or carer immediately and if no response contact the agency involved immediately.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy will continue to contact and /or have sighting over vulnerable children and their families. For those vulnerable children and young people open to a Social Worker (or are a Family Service and Youth Justice Service high priority case) will be:

- Contacted at least weekly.
- Monitored as agreed with the worker's team manager.

Looked After Children (twice weekly dependent on the child's individual placement needs)

If there are any issues raised during this time regarding their care, safety or ability to be contacted then the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy will follow their local safeguarding procedures.

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

During these unprecedented circumstances the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy 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 0115 9747885 in the first instance and whether they are on or off site, leads will gain contact with any family or professional as soon as possible.

Contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputy should be within the hours of the school day 9am-3.30pm ONLY.

In the event that children or families needing support immediately they should contact the **Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Tel: - 0300 500 80 90** 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 Lead/Deputy may be different during this time the school's response remains the same and follows the guidelines as set out in our child protection policy and Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership policy/guidance.

### **Guidance for parents and carers: keeping children safe online**

Given that many children will be using online learning during this period we issued the following guidance in our newsletter of 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settingsinformation-for-parents-and-carers>

Additional information can be found on our website and at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers>

### **Nottinghamshire County Council Contacts:**

Who should Head Teachers contact should they wish to discuss vulnerable pupils who are attending their provision?

The following numbers should be used by Head Teachers, social workers and other key professionals as deemed necessary by the school in particular:

The Contact numbers for Social Care colleagues with school access issues for CP or LAC pupils are:

Rushcliffe, Broxtowe, Gedling

Alison Blackmore: 07824 544832 [alison.blackmore@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:alison.blackmore@nottsc.gov.uk)

Janet Tyers: 07944 465443 [janet.tyers@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:janet.tyers@nottsc.gov.uk)

Emma Dolan: 07766 364453 [emma.dolan@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:emma.dolan@nottsc.gov.uk)

In addition, headteachers continue to have contact with their school improvement area lead:

Mark Aske – Broxtowe, Rushcliffe & Gedling – 0115 8040641

Issued 1st April 2020