

## Safeguarding during COVID 19 Pandemic

We still have regard to Keeping Children Safe in Education

The way we are currently operating in response to coronavirus (COVID-19) is fundamentally different to business as usual, however, a number of important safeguarding principles remain the same:

- With regard to safeguarding, the best interests of children MUST always continue to come first.
- If anyone in a school or college has a safeguarding concern about any child, they should continue to act immediately.
- The DSL Pam Bancroft tel. 0771 076 0795 and the Deputy DSL Harmi Grewal tel. 0771 240 7863 are available to contact by phone, email or your concerns can be logged via CPOMS as usual.
- Visitors to the school will have the usual safeguarding procedures applied to them. All visitors with a red lanyard MUST always be supervised by a member of CODA staff.
- Children should continue to be protected when they are online see links to support and advice below
- We continue to work with and support children' social workers to protect the vulnerable children.

### **New arrangements.**

#### Vulnerable Children

Vulnerable children are those with a named social worker ie, Looked After Children, children supported with a Child Protection Plan, children who are a Child In Need and children with an Education Health and Care Plan.

Parent / carers of vulnerable students and those who are key workers were asked before the school closure if their child would be attending the school. A daily attendance register is kept and sent to the DfE each day. The absence of students expected in school will be followed up. In all circumstances where a vulnerable child does not take up their place at school, or discontinues, the DSL will notify their social worker.

When the school is open there is a trained DSL on site, or they will be available to be contacted via telephone. Where the trained DSL is not on site, the Senior Leader will assume responsibility to co-ordinating safeguarding on site.

Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the school Safeguarding Policy, this includes making a report via CPOMS, which can be done remotely.

**Staff are reminded of the need to report any concern immediately and without delay. Contact with the DSL or deputy should also be made via telephone or email if an urgent response is required.**

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

Concerns around the Headteacher should be directed to the Chair of Governors:

The Trust will continue to offer support in the process of managing allegations.

The Safeguarding team carry out weekly safe and well checks by phoning the parents of the vulnerable children, this contact is recorded in Go4Schools and any missed calls are followed up. If we have been unable to contact parents on three successive occasions the police/social care are informed and parents are requested to contact the school immediately with their new phone numbers.

### Mental Health

Negative experiences and distressing life events, such as the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents. Teachers should be aware of this in setting expectations of childrens' work where they are at home. Links to support agencies and guidance from NSPCC, Childline, CBBC Newsround, Mind Heart, Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families and the Association for Child Mental Health are included in the Academy website and parent newsletters.

Students are set activities targeted to help children and their families to maintain good mental health and wellbeing.

### Online Safety

- The [UK Safer Internet Centre's professional online safety helpline](#) also provides support teachers with any online safety issues they face. There is also advice for remote teaching and safeguarding from the NSPCC <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/2020/march/undertaking-remote-teaching-safely/>
- [Childline](#) - for support
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - to report and remove harmful online content
- [CEOP](#) - for advice on making a report about online abuse

YouTube clips aimed at parents to remind them of the importance of engaging with their children's online lives and keeping them safe online during this time are posted on the Academy website and parent newsletters. The link to the first clip is <https://youtu.be/BhLWwQ4Ay5s>. We have a link to CEOP on our Academy website. Support for parents/carers to keep their children safe includes:

- [Internet matters](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [London Grid for Learning](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [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
- [Childline](#) - for support
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - to report and remove harmful online content
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