

Fairisle Junior School

COVID-19 annex to Safeguarding Policy – Updated January 2021

Following government advice issued this week since the country went into lockdown, we have written the following annex to our safeguarding policy, which should be read in conjunction with the most up to date policy, which was reviewed by the governing body during the autumn term 2020.

Advice from the government outlines that an annex should include the following:

- Any updated advice received from the local 3 safeguarding partners. Will be forwarded to all DSLs electronically as soon as possible on receiving them.
- Any updated advice received from local authorities regarding children with education, health and care (EHC) plans, the local authority designated officer and children's social care, reporting mechanisms, referral thresholds and children in need. All children in the above categories have been offered a place at school during the emergency situation. Where these offers have been refused the school has a strategy for these children and their families to be contacted by a DSL (each day for children on Child Protection Plans, every other day for children on Children in Need Plans and either once or twice each week for all other children on our list of vulnerable pupils which all DSLs and members of the school's senior leadership team and admin staff have access to through the Google Shared Drive. Relevant professionals will be contacted (e.g. Family Engagement Worker or Social Worker). Places will continue to be referred during the partial closure of the school
- If staff and volunteers have any concerns about a child, advice is unchanged. Any adult who has any concerns about a child at our school must make a DSL aware of the concern immediately by telephone or face to face AND open an incident on CPOMS.
- The continued importance of all staff and volunteers acting and acting immediately on any safeguarding concerns. Current advice is unchanged.
- DSL (and deputy) arrangements - A Designated Safeguarding Lead for our school is always either on site or on call. There is an emergency contact phone to contact a DSL, which can be used by parents or children anytime day or night. The number is: 07874 012280
- The continued importance for school and college staff to work with and support children's social workers and the local authority virtual school head (VSH) for looked after and previously looked-after children This is unchanged.
- Peer on peer abuse - given the very different circumstances we are operating in, a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims (the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE should continue to inform any revised approach)
- What staff and volunteers should do if they have concerns about a staff member or volunteer who may pose a safeguarding risk to children (the principles in part 4 of KCSIE will continue to support how we respond to any such concerns). This is unchanged.
- Any arrangements to support children we are concerned about who do not meet the 'vulnerable' definition. A Designated Safeguarding Lead contacts children and families either once or twice each week for all other children on our list of vulnerable pupils which all DSLs and members of the school's senior leadership team and admin staff have access to through the Google Shared Drive.
- What arrangements are in place to keep children not physically attending our school safe, especially online and how concerns about these children should be progressed. The school's Twitter feed is used to keep parents and families up to date regarding keeping children safe online. Where an important issue becomes known, a DSL will contact parents by telephone.

This annex will be maintained and updated as required by the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher.