



Bishop Challoner

Catholic Secondary School

Diocese of Portsmouth
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Safeguarding COVID-19 Addendum

COVID – 19 School Arrangement for Safeguarding and Child Protection

Context

The following will be followed in the event of a full or partial school closure due to COVID-19

Students and young people always come first, staff should respond robustly to safeguarding concerns and contact the DSL in line with our established safeguarding procedure.

This addendum sets out the adjustments we will make in line with the changed arrangements at Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School and following advice from government and local agencies.

Reporting arrangements

The school arrangements for reporting concerns continue in line with our child protection policy.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Mrs P. Wingham contact via email pippa.wingham@bcs.hants.sch.uk or 01256 462661

The deputy DSLs are Mr J Wright, Mrs B O'Shea, Mrs S Thorpe, Mrs S Smith, Mrs J Cottam and Mrs G Perkins

Hampshire Children Service team can be contacted on 01329 225379 out of hours call 0300 5551373 In the event of emergency call 999.

Staff will continue to follow the Child Protection procedure and advise the DSL immediately about any concerns they have about any child whether in school or not.

In addition to fulfilling the responsibilities of a teacher and member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) the DSL will also follow the role description set out in Annex B of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020.

Vulnerable Students

At Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School we have identified those students considered as 'vulnerable' and have put in place specific arrangements in respect of the following groups:

- Children in Care- involving agreements with Carers and Social Workers, will have as a minimum fortnightly contact through phone or email.
- Students who have previously been Children in Care - with the agreement of Carers and Social Workers, will have as a minimum fortnightly contact through phone or email.



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- Students subject to a child protection plan/Children in Need plan or open to Early Help- will be offered places at school. Where these places are not taken up it will be agreed with Carers and Social Workers that contact is maintained through a combination of visits, phone calls and emails to families.
- Students with an EHCP- Risk Assessments will be carried out and places offered at school where appropriate. Where these places are not taken up contact will be maintained via the SENCO, using a combination of home visits, phone calls and linking students with a Learning Support Assistant who as a minimum will make fortnightly contact.
- In addition, other vulnerable families will be identified by the SLT and they will be closely monitored through their engagement with online learning and submission of work, they will be contacted via home visits, phone or email.
- All students will be expected to follow their online timetable, accessing lessons through TEAMS with set work and resources uploaded to Satchel One/Show My Homework (SMHW). Students are able to contact teachers through SMHW or through the school email provision.

Attendance:

The DSL and Social Workers will agree with Parents or Carers whether students should be attending school. Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School will monitor attendance for all students using on-line registration and lesson engagement. Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School holds all contact numbers for pupils on the school roll.

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs):

During a period of school closure Mrs P Wingham DSL will be on site and can be contacted by phone or email.

The DSL will continue to engage with Social Workers and will send electronic reports or attend Multi-Agency meetings, virtually as required.

The admin email will be monitored daily adminoffice@bcs.hants.sch.uk

Recruitment

Should the school need to recruit personnel during a school closure it will continue to follow a robust safer recruitment process. Interviews may need to be conducted remotely, references will be sought and enhanced DBS certificates which include barred list information will be required for all appointments.

Reporting a concern

Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the Safeguarding Policy, reporting the concern to the DSL.

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

Staff training and safeguarding induction

Staff at Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School undertake training on induction and at the start of the academic year. All staff are issued with a copy of:

- Child Protection Policy 2020
- Safeguarding Policy 2020, including the procedure for reporting concerns directly to the Designated Safeguarding Leads.



- Keeping Children Safe in Education, Part 1: Information for all school and college staff
- The Prevent Duty (June 2015).
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Whistle Blowing Policy

We note that for the period of a COVID-19 lockdown measures are in place that mean a DSL or deputy will continue to be classed as a trained DSL even if they have missed their refresher training.

Staff will be aware of increased risk

There is increased pressure on students and families during a lockdown. These pressures have been considered when setting work for students to undertake at home.

Our students will be using the internet more during this period. As such:

- The School continues to ensure appropriate filters and monitors are in place.
- Staff will be reminded of the existing home learning strategies such as TEAMS Satchel/SMHW, Educake, GCSE Pod , Kerboodle and MyMaths.
- Staff will be reminded of the utmost importance of only using school systems to communicate with students and their families.
- Parents will be reminded of the importance of keeping their child/ren safe online, tools will be shared to support them with this, for example:
 - Internet Matters
 - Net-aware – from the NSPCC
 - Parent info
 - Thinkuknow
 - UK Safer Internet Centre.



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