

Appendix

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

Children 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 annex sets out the adjustments we will make in line with the changed arrangements at Bishop Challoner 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 Philippa Wingham pippa.wingham@bcs.hants.sch.uk
contact via safeguarding phone 07495435526

The deputy DSLs are Mr J Wright, Mr R Dollimore, Mrs B O'Shea, Mrs S Thorpe, Mrs Siobhan Smith, Mrs J Cottam.

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.

Vulnerable Children:

At Bishop Challoner we have identified those pupils 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 mostly involve fortnightly contact through phone or email as a minimum.
- Children who have previously been Children in Care with the agreement of carers and Social Workers will have contact via phone or email on a fortnightly basis as a minimum.
- Children subject to a child protection plan/ Children in Need plan- These pupils 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.
- Children 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 makes fortnightly contact as a minimum.
- In addition other vulnerable families will be identified by the SLT and they will be contacted via home visits, phone or email.
- In addition all children will be set work and are able to contact teachers through Show My Homework.

Attendance:

Bishop Challoner and social workers will agree with parents or carers whether children should be attending school. Bishop Challoner will follow up on those students who it's agreed to attend that do not. Bishop Challoner hold all contact numbers for pupils on the school roll.

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs):

During a period of school closure a DSL will be on rota at school each day. Mrs P Wingham DSL can be contacted at any time via email or in the event of emergency using the safeguarding phone number.

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 admin@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 sort and enhanced DBS certificates which includes 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 outlines 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 undertake training on induction and at the start of the academic year. All staff are issued with copied of:

- Child Protection Policy
- Safeguarding Policy 2019, including the procedure for reporting concerns directly to our 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 miss their refresher training.

Staff will be aware of increased risk:

There is increased pressure on children and families during a lockdown. These pressures have been considered when setting work for children 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 Show My Homework, Educake, GCSE Pod , Kerboodle and MyMaths.
- Staff will be reminded of the utmost importance of only using school systems to communicate with children 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.