

COVID-19 Addendum to Cadishead Primary Safeguarding Policy

OVERVIEW

The school will continue to take account of any updated advice received from the local safeguarding partners and this will include 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.

INTENTION

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

1. To ensure that if anyone in this school has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act and act immediately
2. To ensure that a DSL or deputy should always be available, either in person or by phone.
3. To ensure that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the children's workforce and/or gain access to children in this school
4. To ensure that children should continue to be protected when they are online

IMPLEMENTATION

Whilst the school remains open to care for pupils of key workers there will be greatly reduced levels of staffing.

1. If staff or volunteers have any concerns about a child they should report the concerns to the DSL or Deputy DSL (Mrs Thomas or Mrs Heggs)
2. If the DSL or Deputy DSL are not on site the concerns must be reported at once to the most senior member of staff on site, plus the DSL or Deputy DSL.
3. If it is not appropriate to report to that member of staff then the matter should be immediately reported by telephone to the DSL or Deputy DSL It is crucially importance that any member of staff or volunteer must act immediately on any safeguarding concerns
4. The school will continue 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
5. In the case of peer on peer abuse - given the very different circumstances that the school is operating in, the process for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims will continue to follow the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE will continue to inform any revised approach.
6. If staff or volunteers 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 inform how the school responds to any such concerns.
7. The school will try to endeavour to maintain its arrangements to support children that it is concerned about who do not meet the 'vulnerable' definition
8. The procedures for keeping children not physically attending the school safe, especially online will continue to apply.

IMPACT

The care and safety of pupils will not be compromised due to the unusual circumstances that the COVID-19 Epidemic has enforced on this school. The high standards set in KCSIE will be maintained at all times. It is important that all staff and volunteers are aware of this Addendum to our policy and that they keep up to date as it is revised. This revised policy will be made available publicly via the schools website. It must be applied in conjunction with all our other safeguarding policies.