COVID-19 Appendix: Child Protection Policy

School: Whaley Thorns Community Primary and Nursery School

This amendment should be read in conjunction with the Whaley Thorns Primary School Safeguarding Policy, Staff Code of Conduct & Behaviour Policy

Safeguarding Policies can be found: school website address

Whaley Thorns Primary School Statement:

In accordance with the DfE and Government guidance schools are requested wherever possible to remain open, to support our most vulnerable learners, our school community and the frontline critical key workers amongst us.

These measures require critical planning as they are fundamentally different to our normal way of working. However, a number of important safeguarding principles will remain the same when safeguarding our learners throughout the COVID-19 pandemic

Our school aims are outlined below:

Staffing arrangements:

Our commitment to safeguarding our learners, community and staff will remain our top priority throughout these unprecedented times. With this in mind each school day has a scaled down staffing rota implemented. This will consist of, one Senior Lead (SLT) and one Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). A second DSL will be held in reserve to cover any eventuality. Other members of the SLT will work remotely from home, but still remain contactable.

Our teaching and support staff will also adopt a scaled back rota system to minimise the amount of contact, taking in to account the guidance on social distancing and regular hand washing regimes.

Staff will be required to:
- Not access the school site prior to 7am & will close swiftly once the last student has been collected – all staff will be required off site by 5pm wherever possible.
- Remain in their class bubbles & use the identified facilities for each Key Stage.
- Long hair will be expected to be tied back.
- Long finger nails will be required to be kept at a reasonable length.

What staff should do if they are worried about a child?

The expectation of all of our staff is to continue to monitor the safety and well-being of all of our learners, following the schools reporting a concerns procedure.

Safeguarding Lead:
- A Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is required on site each day the school is open.
- A reserve DSL will be nominated each day to capture any unforeseen circumstances.
- Phone contact should be made available if the DSL is working remotely.
- COVID 19 Risk Mitigation Safeguarding Tracker is required to monitor and develop a more robust support plan if deemed appropriate, with some key learners.

Partnership Agencies:
If our learners have an allocated professional working with the family, then an additional Welfare call will be required with the identified key professional. See frequency below:

- **Child Protection** – weekly contact
- **Child in Need / Looked After** - fortnightly contact
- **Medical** – fortnightly contact if deemed appropriate

Safeguarding our Virtual School – Working Remotely:

As most of our learners find themselves working remotely at home our aim is to contact each family on a weekly basis to carry out an Engagement & Safeguarding Welfare Call. These calls need to follow a robust fact find to establish how the parent/carer and learners are progressing.

If a parent raises any concerns at the time of the Engagement & Safeguarding Welfare Call. the member of staff has a duty of care to help the parent if it is with in their expertise or refer to a member of staff that can offer the family, the assistance they require.

If the concern raised is of a safeguarding nature, staff should follow the reporting a concern procedure.

Procedures and safety measures for online use:

- Any computers being used should be in a visible area (i.e. not a bedroom)
- Ensure your device(s) has all the appropriate safety functions installed, updated and checked regularly.
- Be aware that through this lock down period your child will be accessing their devices more frequently, so be mindful of their emotional health.

Social media:
Should be used as a robust way of alerting our parents of ways to keeping their child(ren) safe whilst online. As guidance's, training materials and useful links are identified these should be distributed in a timely manner to our school community enabling our parent(s) /carer(s) to be better prepared. Some of the services listed below can be found on our website.

Thinkuknow
CEOPs
NetAware
Internet Matters
UK Safer Internet Centre
Parentinfo

Police: Emergency **999**   Non-Emergency **101**

Mental Health:
Negative experiences throughout these unprecedented times can have an impact on the mental health of a family as a unit or individuals. Support can be accessed through a number of national organisations including:

CAMHS
NSPCC
Samaritans

Mindful
Childline

Derbyshire County Council – Starting Point

Details can be found on our school website: [school website address](#)