

Addendum to the Child Protection Policy January 2021

This addendum supports The Ecclesbourne Schools current Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy September 2020. This is the third addendum issued and relates specifically to additional Safeguarding arrangements that needs to be in place as part of the COVID pandemic. The two previous addendums are;

- April 2020, Addendum, Summary of any key COVID-19 Mitigation Planning, Safeguarding and Child Protection changes;
- June 2020, Annex A, The Safeguarding arrangements for the wider Opening of Education Settings to Children from June 1<sup>st.</sup>

This addendum is needed to address the Safeguarding arrangements we have in place to cover, for example, recent guidance issued by the Government on Remote Learning, Re-opening of Schools January 2021 and on Local Safeguarding Arrangements as the pandemic continues.

This Addendum reflects updated advice from Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, Children's Social Care Reporting Mechanisms, and any updated available support services.

Key information is found here: https://www.ddscp.org.uk/coronavirus-safeguarding-arrangements/

The Strategic Leadership and Governors will also ensure they keep up-to-date with changing National and Local arrangements using the following sites as a starting point;

https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus

https://schoolsnet.derbyshire.gov.uk/administration-services-and-support/coronavirus-information/coronavirus-information.aspx

## 1. Vulnerable Children/reporting concerns

The Pastoral Leadership Team are responsible for identifying vulnerable children who may need additional support due to the extended period that they will be out of school due to the second period of school closures. The school has a register of those children that we identify as vulnerable and weekly checks will be carried out on them during the current closure. Any concerns raised will be actioned via the usual channels. Special due regard will be given to vulnerable children who have chosen not to attend school even though they have been encouraged to do so. Support and guidance stays the same with particular reference to:

- The Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership briefing on safeguarding children at a time of significant demand from September 2020: Appendix 1.
- Community Health Advisors (Mental Health and Wellbeing):

#### https://www.camhsnorthderbyshire.nhs.uk/specialist-community-advisors

https://www.derbyshirehealthcareft.nhs.uk/services/childrens-mental-health-services-camhsderby-and-southern-derbyshire/im-professional/specialist-community-advisors

- The Local Early Help Team (Derbyshire):- Amber Valley 01629 533640 or 01629 533212
- The Transition Team, emerging needs (Derbyshire) 01629 536451

## 2. Maintaining contact

The Pastoral leadership team have identified a group of students who they deem to be vulnerable or who need additional support. At least weekly phone calls are made to these students if they are not in school and records of these conversations are maintained on My Concern. Students are coming into school, to continue visits from external professionals.

# 3. Designated Safeguarding Lead (and Deputy) Arrangements

Alongside the Designated Safeguarding Officer there are currently three deputies. Either the DSL or one of the three Deputies will be on site at all times to support any Safeguarding Concerns that arise. The DSL is available at all times and staff and the Local Authority are aware of how to contact her.

## 4. Children with a Social Worker

Where appropriate our vulnerable children who have a social worker and children with an EHCP will attend school so long as they do not have underlying health conditions that puts them at severe risk of doing so.

Where a parent/carer does not want to bring their child to an education setting, and their child is considered vulnerable, we will contact the social worker. The social worker will explore the reasons for this directly with the family and wherever possible encourage attendance. Any discussions will be communicated to the Social Worker.

## 5. Home Educated Children

When parents/carers are considering Home Education and or have taken a decision to remove the child from our roll, we encourage an open line of communication and will arrange a discussion with the family. In doing this we will inform them of their legal duties and that they will be expected to provide a full-time suitable education. We will also explain that as part of the procedure for wanting to pursue Home Education, we will notify the Local Authority of their decision and the Local Authority will need to make further enquiries directly with them.

If this decision relates to COVID-19 and there are concerns about the physical or mental health of the child or other family member, we will try and continue to offer reassurances about the measures we have taken to protect their health and wellbeing.

The DfE has published advice for parents/carers considering Elective Home Education (EHE). It sets out clearly, the implications of withdrawing children from school for the purposes of home education. We will in our discussion with parents/carers hand out information and provide this link where the option of EHE is explored:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elective-home-education

We will also provide additional information found here: https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/elective-home-education/elective-home-education.aspx

#### 6. Remote Learning

Due to the current school closure school are running online learning for all students bar the vulnerable and critical workers children. With online learning it is important that we take steps to ensure children are protected and staff have been given guidance on how to use our chosen software platform Microsoft Teams. Staff will also adhere to the schools Blended Learning Policy.

Safeguarding and Child Protection remains as important in this environment as anywhere else, and we will apply the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy just as we would to classroom working.

When staff work remotely, we will ensure that our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is adhered to, and the Managing Allegations Against Staff, Carers and Volunteers policy is followed also.

Updated National Guidance provided by the DfE can be found on the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-and-remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19#virtual-lessons-and-live-streaming

Derbyshire County Council's 'Education Data Hub' has published advice on remote learning, November 2020, which is available on the following page:

https://schoolsnet.derbyshire.gov.uk/administration-services-and-support/coronavirusinformation/information-and-advice-to-schools.aspx

## 7. Monitoring Arrangements

This addendum will be reviewed and updated as Guidance from the Local Safeguarding Partners, other relevant agencies or DfE is received, and as a minimum once a month. At every review, it will be read and approved by the Chair of Governors and Safeguarding Governor.



# Appendix 1.

#### **Useful Contacts: Children's Social Care**

Area Referrals/front door Professional Advice

Derbyshire	01629 533190 (Starting Point)
Online referral	01629 535353 (8am – 6pm)
Derby	01332 641172 (First Response)
Online referral	07812 300329 (10am – 4pm)

<u>Early Help:</u> Area High Peak & Dales

North East & Bolsover Chesterfield Amber Valley Erewash South Derbyshire & Dales Telephone number 01629 531232 (Glossop) 01629 533502 (Buxton) 01629 533623 or 01629 537398 01629 533557 01629 533640 or 01629 533212 01629 537820 or 01629 531576 01629 532617

CAMHSTelephone numberHigh Peak and Derbyshire Dales01298 72445CAHMS Derby and South Derbyshire0300 7900264