



Child Protection Policy addendum

Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

V2 27/01/21

For the attention of parents.

Updated January 2021

This is an addendum to our current Child Protection Policy concerning the Coronavirus pandemic and linked public health priorities, to reflect its impact on schools, home learning, Safeguarding and Child Protection.

The Headteacher is responsible for this addendum and remains responsible for the continuity of safeguarding leadership at Droxford Junior School (DJS) and is in constant contact with our DDSLs and the SLT.

This addendum will be updated as and when guidance from the Government advises:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Our school policies are still applicable and can be found via the link below.

<http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/policies/>

It is important for everyone to know that these policies still contain the essential knowledge and guidance in order to safeguard our children, including reference to KCSiE 2020. Please adhere to these whenever appropriate.

From the 5th January 2021, schools and all childcare providers were asked to restrict attendance, to include only a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable, and children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child;
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan;
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
 - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
 - adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
 - those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
 - those living in temporary accommodation
 - those who are young carers

- those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
- care leavers
- others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health.

Eligibility for free school meals in and of itself is not a determining factor in assessing vulnerability. DSLs know who the most vulnerable children are and have flexibility in determining this.

Where necessary, DJS will continue to work with and support children's social workers to help protect vulnerable children. This includes working with and supporting children's social workers and the local authority virtual school, responsible for looked-after and previously looked-after children.

For the majority of children, this means that they will be learning from home and be using remote learning methods as their primary means of access to education. Please see reference to our Remote Learning Plan; E-safety, Social networking and Acceptable use policy; Home learning E-safety policy; and Remote Education provision: information for parents for further details.

The following points are added to our Child protection policy as an addendum, giving further guidance and information on school practice.

We are ensuring the following takes place

- We continue to have a DSL present in school every day (and in the event of a DSL being absent we will ensure a DSL is readily contactable off site, via video link or phone).
- Staff are aware of DSLs and First Aiders present each day. We have a clear rota of staffing in place which includes what would happen if the HT is ill; Site Manager is ill; Office Team is depleted and staffing team needs covering.
- The SENCo / HT / DHT, as DSLs, have details of vulnerable children / families and will have regular communication with them in order to offer support and ensure accountability.
- DJS has a Designated Teacher in place (SEnCo) to support LAC / PLAC and their families when appropriate.
- Procedures for contacting the LADO remains the same (see important contacts starting on page 3. These contacts form part of our **annual safeguarding induction**).
- DSLs have details of specific Social Workers stored on CPOMS – therefore being able to contact them whenever required in reference to vulnerable children. Where necessary, Social Workers should be notified about vulnerable children who need to self-isolate to agree 'the best way to maintain contact and offer support to the vulnerable child or young person.'
- Staff will continue to use CPOMS to log concerns for those children attending school physically and those accessing school remotely
- A vulnerable child register is returned to the LA on a weekly basis.
- The majority of children will now be accessing remote education. Remote education includes recorded or live direct teaching time, and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently - at DJS we will be providing between 4-5 hours of home learning activities a day through the Google Classroom platform. Class Dojo also provides an interface between home and school.
- It is important that all staff who interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns should be dealt with as per the Child

Protection Policy and, where appropriate, referrals should still be made to children's social care and, as required, the police.

- Staff will ensure they meet expectations as set out in the Remote Learning Plan; E-safety, Social networking and Acceptable use policy; and Home learning E-safety policy. Children will be expected to attend any live teaching sessions with a parent/carer present nearby and all sessions are recorded for transparency. Please see our Home Learning E-Safety policy for more details.
- DSLs, sometimes via other members of staff, will keep a record of contact for vulnerable children and families, including those with SEN and those identified as Pupil Premium, and ensure that regular communication takes place in order to support access to home learning.
- A laptop and keyboard loan scheme is in place to support families with the provision of technology. Parent user guides have been disseminated and school staff are available to reduce barriers to access through explanation and guidance. The quality of teaching and learning materials will be regularly reviewed. The head teacher has overarching responsibility for the quality and delivery of remote education.
- Attendance will continue to be monitored for those attending school physically and those accessing remote learning. Teachers will ensure a class register is taken at daily Google Meet sessions so that we have an accurate record of children attending. We recognise that attendance won't always be possible at these sessions for a variety of reasons. DSLs and SLT have an overview of attendance registers and if a week has passed with no contact, class teachers will endeavour to contact and pass immediately onto DSLs if there are concerns. There may be additional information available to DSLs which mean contact would be further monitored and action taken before this time.
- In the newsletter; via website; specific letters and Twitter we will ensure parents know how to raise any Safeguarding issues that may arise during any online learning.
- Teachers make clear that if children wish to speak to them privately online, they can put a comment in chat and speak outside the whole class thread. Weekly PDL lessons reference Childline numbers and the Childline contact information is moved to the top of each Google classroom feed weekly to ensure visibility and access.
- We are able to support parents / children / staff with how bereavements maybe handled including obtaining any support services if required.
- We have signposted, and will continue to signpost children, parents and staff to mental health awareness and support via specific letters / guidance; website; newsletter and the school's Twitter feed.
- We have a robust school Risk Assessment which details school site specific Health & Safety guidance, with explicit reference to the system of controls still in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in schools. This sets out appropriate social distancing measures, increased ventilation and cleaning and frequent hand hygiene measures.

Safeguarding roles

Names of Designated Safeguard Leads (DSL)

Matthew Dampier (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguard Leads (DDSL)

Jenny Smith (Deputy Headteacher)

Lisa Greenwood (SENCo)

Chair of Governors

Kate Couldwell

Safeguarding governor

Helen Parrott

Designated Teacher (Looked After Children LAC / PLAC Post Looked After Children)

Lisa Greenwood

LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer)

Mark Blackwell

Barbara Piddington

Important contacts

LADO: (child.protection@hants.gov.uk 01962 876364)

Children's services: childrens.services@hants.gov.uk 0300 555 1384

(0300 555 1373 out of hours)

LLP Rebecca Kingsland

Please follow Thresholds Chart July 2019 if a referral form needs to be complete follow link below.

Professionals should complete the Inter [Agency Referral Form \(IARF\)](#).

MASH: Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/safeguardingchildren/childprotection/mash>

Further MASH advice

Concerns about a child

If you have any concerns because you think that a child might be being abused and you want to talk to someone or ask someone to find out what is going on, you should contact Children's Services:

- phone 0300 555 1384 during office hours 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday, 8.30am to 4.30pm on Friday
- phone 0300 555 1373 at all other times to contact the Out of Hours service

Professionals should complete the Inter [Agency Referral Form \(IARF\)](#).

Attendance

Registers of those children attending school during School Closure are uploaded and sent to DfE as required.

Advice from – LADO – Mark Blackwell...

*Local authorities and schools do not need to complete their usual day-to-day attendance processes to follow up on non-attendance. Schools/colleges and social workers should be agreeing with families whether children in need should be attending education provision – and **the school or college should then follow up on any child that they were expecting to attend**, who does not. Schools and colleges should also follow up with any parent or carer who has arranged care for their children and the children subsequently do not attend. To support the above, schools and colleges should take the opportunity when communicating with parents and carers to confirm emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available. In all circumstances where a vulnerable child does not take up their place at school or college, **or discontinues, the school or college should notify their social worker.***

The department has introduced a daily online attendance form to keep a record of children of critical workers and vulnerable children who are attending school. This allows for a record of attendance for safeguarding purposes and allows schools to provide accurate, up-to-date data to the department on the number of children taking up places.

If a child you are expecting doesn't turn up, you would follow your normal processes. If there is no answer from either the main contact or the emergency contact and they are open to social care then contact the social worker.

This will always be best via email unless you have their mobile number.

If the child is the child of an essential worker and the parent or emergency contacts are not responding after a few attempts, then I would suggest either a contact with MASH via the IARF or a call to 101 and ask if a welfare contact can be made.

Mark Blackwell – LADO

PREVENT

If you have concerns about an individual becoming radicalised, or are worried about a change in their behaviour linked to Prevent, contact 101 or prevent.engagement@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Matthew Dampier

Headteacher



School Vision:

'Equipping our children with the knowledge and skills to navigate life successfully'.