

Coronavirus (COVID-19) ***School Closure Safeguarding*** ***Arrangements***



Together We Learn

...always striving to be outstanding, transforming the aspirations of a community.

Date: April 2020

To be reviewed: September 2020

Context

During this time, Ernesettle Community School will continue to safeguard and promote the welfare of all of our children. We will endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment to those pupils who will continue to attend school and ensure we offer support to all vulnerable pupils and their families, through daily and weekly check-in phone calls. All families know they can contact the school directly by emailing ecs@ecs.plymouth.sch.uk and this email address is being monitored in the evenings, weekends and throughout holidays.

We will continue to follow Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidance to ensure we follow all current statutory guidance to provide safeguarding and child protection support to all children and their families.

We will continue to be alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice. Child protection continues to form part of the school's safeguarding responsibilities.

- The way we are currently operating in response to coronavirus (COVID-19) is fundamentally different to 'business as usual', however, a number of important safeguarding principles will remain the same:
- with regard to safeguarding, the best interests of children will always continue to come first
- if anyone in a school has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act and act immediately
- a DSL will always either be on site or available on the phone
- it is essential that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the site and/or gain access to children
- children should continue to be protected when they are online

Key Contacts for Ernesettle Community School:

	
Mr. A. Meredith Executive Headteacher Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs. A. Pearce Head of School Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
	
Mrs. R. Little Assistant Headteacher Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs. K. Powell Family Support Advisor Safeguarding Trained

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy – Amendments

Contact:

- DSL/Safeguarding Lead will be available throughout this time via telephone/email/on site
- All children with EHCP, on a Child Protection Plan or with parents as Keyworkers will be welcome to attend school daily

Reporting Concerns:

- Any member of staff who has a Safeguarding/Child Protection concern in relation to a child should continue to follow school protocol – inform the DSL and DDSL (call/email) log all concerns on CPOMS – system will be monitored daily.

Vulnerable Children:

- Safeguarding Leads will continue to work with colleagues in Social Care and will, where possible, attend all Safeguarding and Child Protection meetings via video/conference call.
- Safeguarding Leads will endeavour to make weekly calls to Social Workers of those children on Child Protection Plans.
- Safeguarding Leads will endeavour to make daily/weekly calls to vulnerable Parents/Carers and children.
- Safeguarding Leads will ensure all calls are logged on CPOMS and on the Welfare Call Log.

Safer Recruitment:

- Any new staff joining Ernesettle Community School will receive virtual safeguarding training and expectations of all staff will continue.
- Any volunteer/outside agency attending Ernesettle Community School will be DBS checked and all legislation and guidance will continue to be followed in line with safer recruitment guidance.
- All staff will be expected to follow code of conduct and will need to produce all relevant documentation.
- Any member of staff who has a concern in relation to another member of staff/volunteer must follow the Whistleblowing Policy.

Transition:

- Safeguarding Leads will continue to liaise with secondary schools and Early Years settings to ensure a smooth transition for all children but in particular the most vulnerable children – this will include sharing of relevant Safeguarding/CP concerns, information regarding CIN/CP and LAC children and transferring of relevant Safeguarding Logs through CPOMS.

Attendance:

- Attendance will be logged with the DfE on a daily basis by the Attendance Officer. The Attendance Officer will also inform the LA daily of the attendance figures.

- Staff will follow all usual protocols for children expected to attend but absent - this will include a phone call to Parents/Carers to establish reasons for absence.

Online Safety:

- Staff will continue to share information with Parents/Carers for supporting their children to stay safe online.
- Teachers will plan Online Safety activities for Home Learning Packs.

Peer on Peer Abuse:

- We will continue to ensure our pupils will receive support around any issues within their peer groups. Safeguarding Leads will be in regular contact with our most vulnerable children. All Parents/Carers can contact the school during the school closure period.

Please continue to follow all guidance/procedures and policies in the full Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy which can be viewed on the school website – www.ecs.plymouth.sch.uk