

Amendment for medium to long term school closures

The fundamental principles of the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy remain unchanged.

- with regard to safeguarding, the best interests of children must always continue to come first
- if anyone in a school or college has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act and act immediately
- a DSL or deputy should be available
- it is essential that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the children's workforce and/or gain access to children
- children should continue to be protected when they are online

If Henry Chadwick become part of a cluster venue:

The school or college that is acting as the hub in the cluster should continue to provide a safe environment, keep children safe and ensure staff and volunteers have been appropriately checked and risk assessments carried out as required.

It will be important for any school or college whose children are attending another setting to do whatever they reasonably can to provide the receiving institution with any relevant welfare and child protection information. This will be especially important where children are vulnerable. For looked-after children, any change in school should be led and managed by the VSH with responsibility for the child. The receiving institution should be aware of the reason the child is vulnerable and any arrangements in place to support them. As a minimum the receiving institution should, as appropriate, have access to a vulnerable child's EHC plan, child in need plan, child protection plan or, for looked-after children, their personal education plan and know who the child's social worker (and, for looked-after children, who the responsible VSH is). This should ideally happen before a child arrives and, where that is not possible as soon as reasonably practicable. Any exchanges of information will ideally happen at DSL (or deputy) level, and likewise between special educational needs co-ordinators /named individual with oversight of SEN provision for children with EHC plans. However, it is acknowledged this may not always be possible. Where this is the case senior leaders should take responsibility.

Whilst schools and colleges must continue to have appropriate regard to data protection and GDPR they do not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe.

The role of the DSL:

For the period COVID-19 measures are in place, a DSL (or deputy) who has been trained will continue to be classed as a trained DSL (or deputy) even if they miss their refresher training.

The DSL will continue to follow the guidance set of in this policy and KCSIE 2019.

If the DSL / DDSL is not available on-site then they must be contactable by phone or video link. In this case, the most senior member of staff on-site will take responsibility for coordinating the safe-guarding on-site, including access to CP files.

Support for Vulnerable Children

Where vulnerable children are not on-site, the DSL / DDSL will be in regular contact with the social workers, families and the children themselves. The DSL / DDSL will speak to the children at least weekly. Where possible, staff will have regular visual contact with the children.

Those children who don't meet the vulnerable children definition, will be contacted regularly by telephone (at least weekly) by the SLT. Where possible, staff will have regular visual contact with the children.

On-line safety off-site

Children and parent will be reminded of the E-safety policy and the AUP signed by all students or parents. The children have all been issued with a range of age appropriate e-safety lessons.