



St Botolph's C of E Primary School

COVID-19 School Closure Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy Addendum

March 2020

From 23rd March, parents and carers were asked to keep their children at home while all schools closed to the majority of students. Schools are partially open only to cater for children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response or those who are considered vulnerable and cannot be kept safe at home.

Despite the COVID-19 closure, our priority as a school remains the safety and best interests of the children.

Reporting a concern about a child

All staff are trained to use MyConcern to report a safeguarding concern and will continue to use this platform to do so. They should follow up with an email or telephone call to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. In the event of an immediate safeguarding/child protection concern where a child is at risk of significant harm, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services and all staff are aware of how to do this. Staff are aware that they can refer or seek advice about any child, not just those attending St Botolph's C of E Primary School. A DSL will always be on call during school opening hours. The DSL contact details are available on the school website should anyone need to get in touch to raise a concern. Where the provision available to students is at a hub school within the trust, a St Botolph's DSL will always be on call.

Staffing throughout COVID-19 closure

All staff supervising and working with children during the school closure will be subject to the necessary safeguarding checks as is standard. The necessary detail will be recorded on the Single Central Record. Other adults will not be permitted to be onsite working with pupils. The leadership team will ensure that they are aware of all adults on site and that all the necessary checks have taken place.

Online working

Pupils will access work via Seesaw. The necessary filters will remain in place for all pupils and staff using school computers. Pupils and staff may only communicate via Seesaw and school email. St Botolph's C of E Primary School will ensure the use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data GDPR requirements. Staff will follow the same principles for online teaching as within school teaching, as set out in the Staff Code of Conduct and the Teachers' Standards.

Meetings

All meetings for children in need, children subject to a child protection plan, children in care or children previously in care will, where realistically possible, go ahead via conference calling. A DSL or Designated Teacher (whichever is most appropriate) will attend. Other non-essential meetings will be rescheduled as appropriate. The DSLs and Designated Teacher will remain in contact with outside agencies as appropriate.

Reporting a concern about a member of staff

If staff or parents/carers have concerns about a member of staff who may pose a safeguarding risk to children, they must immediately contact the Headteacher or DSL. The NSPCC whistleblowing advice line can also be contacted on 0800 028 0285 or email help@nspcc.org.uk. If staff or volunteers are worried about the welfare of a member of staff, they should raise this immediately with the Headteacher or DSL. The Headteacher or DSL will take immediate action in line with guidance.

Contact with pupils, parents and carers

The school will contact parents and carers, at least weekly via email, telephone or text message. The school will also use social media pages for sharing of news. Pupils will keep in regular contact with teachers via Seesaw. School email is also available for all pupils to make contact with school staff.

Supporting children not in school

St Botolph's C of E Primary School is committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of all its pupils. If a child has been identified as needing extra support, or may usually receive emotional support in school, the class teacher or a member of the Inclusion team will contact the child regularly. Contact can be via email, telephone or Seesaw. A contact log will be kept by the member of staff and any concerns will be shared immediately with a DSL.

Supporting children in school

St Botolph's C of E Primary School will continue to be a safe place for all pupils to attend and flourish. The Headteacher will ensure that appropriate staff are on site and staff to pupil ratio numbers are appropriate. St Botolph's C of E Primary School will refer to the Government guidance for education and childcare settings on how to implement social distancing and continue to follow the advice from Public Health England on handwashing and other measures to limit the risk of spread of COVID19. St Botolph's C of E Primary School will ensure that where we care for children of critical workers and vulnerable children on site, we ensure appropriate support is in place for them.

Peer on peer abuse

St Botolph's C of E Primary School recognises that during the closure, a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims. Where the school receives a report of peer on peer abuse, they will follow the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE and of those outlined within the Safeguarding policy.

Key contacts - safeguarding

Role	Name	Contact
Head Teacher DSL	Amy Chitty	headteacher@st-botolphs.kent.sch.uk
Assistant Head DSL	Conor Govey	goveyc@st-botolphs.kent.sch.uk
Assistant Head Inclusions Manager DSL	Janet Harding	hardingj@st-botolphs.kent.sch.uk
CEO of AAAT DSL	Steve Carey	careys@aat.uk
Senior Trust Improvement Officer DSL	Sue Tunncliffe	tunncliffes@aat.uk

Other key contacts

Chair of Governors	David Rosenthal	derosenthal@btinternet.com
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Local support contact details

Area Safeguarding Advisor - 03000 41 24 45

Online Safety (non urgent) - 03000 415797 / esafetyofficer@kent.gov.uk

LADO - 03000 410888 / kentchildrenslado@kent.gov.uk

Children's Social Work Services 'Front door' - 03000 411111

Out of Hours - 03000 419191

Kent Police - 101 (or **999 if there is an immediate risk of harm**)

Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership (KSCMP) - 03000 421126 / kscmp@kent.gov.uk