



Child Protection Policy - Addendum



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Following the outbreak of Covid-19 and the Government's response to manage the pandemic, Castle View Enterprise Academy is operating differently to how we usually deliver education and support to our students and their families. The majority of our students are at home and we have a reduction in the amount of staff available on site. Despite this, the safety and wellbeing of all our students remains paramount.

This is a revised addendum to the Child Protection Policy due to the circumstances of COVID-19 and the recent changes to schools announced by central Government on 4th January 2021.

Please ensure that this is read and understood in conjunction with the current Child Protection Policy.

Due to the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus it is necessary that Castle View Enterprise Academy (CVEA) is prepared and has appropriate arrangements in place in relation to the management of any safeguarding or child protection concerns both on and off site during this time.

Therefore we have produced this revised addendum to our existing Child Protection Policy to ensure all staff, Governors, parents and carers understand our protocols for managing child protection concerns during this time. This **MUST** be and **WILL** be reviewed in light of continuing changes.

The principles of Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2020) continue to determine the expectations of schools at this time and include:

- The best interests of children must always continue to come first
- If anyone at CVEA has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to follow the usual protocols and take action immediately
- The DSL/DDSL will be available on site from 8.30am – 2.30pm
- It is essential that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the student's work area and/or gain access to any of the students
- The students will continue to be protected whilst they are learning online.

Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies.

On Site:

While the Academy site remains open for identified students, there will be a safeguarding lead available on site from 8.30am – 2.30pm ONLY.

Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies cannot be responsible for not receiving calls and messages outside of these times. In the event that you are worried about a young person or a family and feel that they are a risk of significant harm immediately or require support then please contact the Police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

The Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies are and continue to be due to their level of training and skill.

Miss Grace Woollett (DSL)
Miss E Sell – KS3 Pastoral Manager
Mrs J Coxon – KS4 Pastoral Manager
Mr C Rainbow – HOY 7
Mr J Wilson – HOY 8
Mr D Peel – HOY 9
Ms A Turner – HOY 10
Mr S Read – HOY 11

However due to these unprecedented circumstances they may not physically be on the Academy site every day. However it is our aim that the following named individuals will be physically on site each day and will liaise directly with the DSL if any incidents of a child protection nature occur.

Monday:- Miss G Woollett
Tuesday:- Miss E Sell
Wednesday:- Mrs J Coxon
Thursday:- Miss E Sell
Friday:- Miss G Woollett

For any reason that the named staff are not on site, Miss Woollett will be available via mobile phone 07718650043 and email Woollett.G1@cvea.co.uk and will respond to any queries within school hours in the first instance.

Should our school site be entirely closed then we will update our website and Child Protection Policy with our arrangements.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies and Heads of Year will continue to remain in contact with those children who we deem are vulnerable or have a multi-agency statutory plan in place to safeguard them who are either attending school or who remain at home.

Continued arrangements will remain in place for those students who are home schooled. Regular and agreed contact will continue with students and their parents, including checking on their online activity and how they are supervised at home.

Arrangements for Contact with Vulnerable Children

Where the Academy remains open, the Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies are fully aware of their vulnerable children and those they are expecting into school each day, should that child not arrive then the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy will make contact with the parent or carer immediately and if no response contact front door services immediately.

Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies will continue to contact vulnerable children and their families in the following timescales as a

minimum whilst the school is only open to identified students and these children are not on site: children who are the subject of a Child Protection Plan (daily), children who have a Child in Need Plan (daily), Looked After Children (twice weekly dependent on the child's individual placement needs) or children with an Early Help Plan (daily). If there are any issues raised during this time regarding their care, safety or ability to be contacted then the Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputies will follow their local safeguarding procedures and contact their local front door services immediately (as per our Child Protection Policy).

The DSL has risk assessed each child who is vulnerable and has made a record of the risk assessment.

The DSL will review each risk assessment regularly and record any changes to the risk assessment.

If a child has a Social Worker or an Early Help Worker, the DSL will contact each professional to share the school's risk assessment and contribute to the ongoing plan to safeguard each child.

If a child has a Social Worker or an Early Help Worker, the DSL has made all reasonable attempts to encourage the child to attend school, providing there's no significant risk to the child's health.

Every contact with a child or family will be recorded.

Availability and contact arrangements for families and professionals who wish to make contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies

During these unprecedented circumstances the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies will be available to be contacted by children, families and other services and agencies to ensure the safety and well-being of all our vulnerable children. They can be contacted via the school enquiries line in the first instance enquiries@cvea.co.uk and whether they are on or off site they will gain contact with any family or professional as soon as possible.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Miss G Woollett who can be contacted via email on Woollett.G1@cvea.co.uk directly or the school safeguarding mobile on **07718650043**

Contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies should be within the hours of the school day 8.30am-2.30pm ONLY. Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies cannot be responsible for not receiving messages outside of these times. In the event that you are worried about a young person or a family and feel that they are a risk of significant harm immediately or require support then please contact the Police on 101 or 999 in an emergency. If you are concerned about a young person's safety and welfare you can also contact Together for Children on **0191 561 7007**.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Miss G Woollett who can be contacted via email on Woollett.G1@cvea.co.uk in the first instance. She will continue to work with Together for Children and any other local authorities if required, social workers, the local authority Designated Officer and Virtual Head teachers upon the return of more students to CVEA. This will involve communicating and sharing information about students, updating all advice received regarding students with EHCP's, liaising with other agencies including the LA concerning changes to reporting mechanisms or referral thresholds and additional support required for any child with a multi-agency plan or intervention.

Increased risk

We recognise that there is increased pressure on families at this time. There will be additional worries about health, finance and employment. We are aware some families will need extra support with things like food parcels and benefits advice. We recognise that the current situation will affect children and their parent's/carer's mental health.

Peer-on-Peer Abuse.

We recognise the importance of responding to peer-on-peer abuse. We recognise some children will be at greater risk of peer-on-peer abuse due to spending more time at home and online. Staff and volunteers will remain vigilant to the signs and indicators of peer-on-peer abuse and will report any concerns to the DSL

Response to safeguarding or child protection concerns

As always our school's duty of care is to keep children safe and while the arrangements of the physical care of children and physical presence of our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies may be different during this time the school's response remains the same and follows the guidelines as set out in our school's Child Protection Policy.

Staff should be clear that they must continue to follow the Academy's Child Protection Policy and report concerns immediately regarding any child to the DSL (either in person if on site or via mobile/email if off site). Once verbally reported this should be documented on CPOMs. Every effort to gain accurate information from the parent and child on return to school should be taken including physical health, mental health and emotional well-being, any incidents of peer on peer abuse and any changes in circumstances.

Response to safeguarding concerns regarding adults in the Academy.

As stated in the Academy's Child Protection Policy, any concerns that may be raised regarding any adult's behaviour in school towards a child should be reported immediately to Mrs Janet Bridges, CEO.

If there are any concerns regarding the CEO's behaviour in school towards a child, this should be reported to Mrs Heidi Mottram, Chair of the Governing Body.

Children Looked After (CLA)

Our Designated Teacher for CLA is Miss Woollett.

Our DT CLA has contacted each child's Social Worker, carer, those with PR (where appropriate) and the Virtual School to discuss the plan for the child's education.

Children looked after will not be moved schools including to “hub schools” or within the MAT without first consulting the Virtual Head teacher.

Attendance

Attendance Procedures

Although attendance of students at school during this time is not statutory, daily contact with students who are vulnerable will be maintained and actioned as and when necessary we are following advice issued by DfE in relation to attendance recording for education settings.

Where a child who is expected to arrive does not arrive, we will try to make contact with the parent/carer by 9.15 am. If we have been unable to contact the child’s parent/carer or emergency contacts by 9.30am the DDSL will continue to make contact until the end of the day. The DSL will also contact any other professionals involved with the pupil e.g. Social Worker. The DSL will be informed and advice sought if contact is not made and undertake a risk assessment to decide on further action required. The DSL will also contact any other professionals involved with the pupil e.g. Social Worker.

Current advice from Together for Children (TfC)

TfC is in regular communication with schools and will continue to provide support and advice as necessary. This policy will be updated by the Head teacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead to reflect the advice given by TfC and the 3 safeguarding partners.

Key messages from TfC [correct as of 04/01/2021]:

- It is ‘business as usual’ for our Children’s Social Care Teams and Early Help Service. Social Workers and Early Help Workers are continuing to visit children and families within timescales.
- Social Workers and Early Help Workers have risk assessed each child and family to ensure they receive the appropriate level of support in these challenging times.
- All concerns (even if the child is already open to a Social Worker) should be shared via ICRT and followed up with a written referral. Contacts and referrals received in this way will be triaged by ICRT and sent to the appropriate Social Worker and team.
- Do not assume Social Workers are at work and/or have access to their emails. If you need to contact a Social Worker you should call them directly or the respective duty number.
- The process for contacting the Designated Officer (Danielle Rose) have not changed.
- Thresholds and how to refer to Early Help and Children’s Social Care have not changed. DSLs should continue to use Sunderland Threshold Guidance.

Revised and reissued 4th January 2021.