William Tyndale Primary School

Child Protection Annex, based on *Coronavirus (COVID-19): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers*, 27th March, 2020.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers

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Key Safeguarding Contacts:

The Designated Governor for safeguarding and child protection is: *Carole Desfrancois*

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for child protection is: *Corinne Atsu-Valentine*

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are: *Claire Oliver, Olivia Ayers and Tanya Watson*

The Designated Teacher for children looked after/previously looked after (CLA) is: *Tanya Watson*

The Designated Manager for Allegations against Staff and Volunteers is *Tanya Watson*

This policy was reviewed and adopted by the Governing Body on: 25th January 2021. It will be reviewed following any updates to national and local guidance and procedures.

This is a core policy that forms part of the induction for all staff and it is a requirement that all members of staff have access to this policy. This policy was shared with all staff on 5th March 2021

Contents

This addendum of William Tyndale's Child Protection policy contains details of our individual safeguarding arrangements, in the following areas and takes into account Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 updated January 2021

1. Context

From 8 March 2021 all children are expected to attend school (following the government's announcement of the Roadmap to ease lockdown restrictions in England due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The key principles of our existing Safeguarding and Child Protection policy still apply as follows:

- With regard to safeguarding, the best interests of children must always continue to come first.
- A DSL or deputy DSL will be available at all times the school is open.
- If anyone in school has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act immediately and inform the DSL or deputy DSL.
- Unsuitable people will not be allowed to enter our workforce and/or gain access to children.
- Children will continue to be protected when they are online.

We will ensure that any new policies and processes in response to COVID-19 will not weaken our approach to safeguarding or undermine this policy.

2. **Vulnerable children**

Current guidance[1] defines vulnerable children as "*those who have a social worker and those children and young people up to the age of 25 with education, health and care (EHC) plans.*

Those who have a social worker include children who have a child protection plan (CP) and those who are looked after by the local authority. A child may also be deemed to be vulnerable if they have been assessed as being in need or otherwise meet the definition in section 17 of the Children Act 1989.

In line with the current guidance, we will risk assess (using Islington's risk assessment tool) those children with an EHC plan in consultation with the local authority (LA) and parents, to decide whether they need to continue to be offered a school or college place in order to meet their needs, or whether they can safely have their needs met at home. This could include, if necessary, carers, therapists or clinicians visiting the home to provide any essential services. Many children and young people with EHC plans can safely remain at home.

Our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and especially our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and their deputies know who our most vulnerable children are.

The Government has published that 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

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[1] *https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people*

Our school 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 head (VSH) for looked-after and previously looked-after children. Our Designated Teacher for this is Tanya Watson.

There is an expectation that vulnerable children who have a social worker will attend an education setting, so long as they do not have underlying health conditions that put them at risk. We will continue to encourage our vulnerable children to attend school, including remotely if needed.

In circumstances where parents do not want to bring their child to an education setting, and their child is considered vulnerable, the social worker and William Tyndale Primary School will explore the reasons for this directly with the parents. Where parents are concerned about the risk of the child contracting COVID-19, William Tyndale Primary School or the social worker will talk through these anxieties with the parent/carer following the advice set out by Public Health England.

Negative experiences and distressing life events, such as the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents. Staff will be aware of this in setting expectations of pupils' work where they are at home. Where we are providing for children of critical workers and vulnerable children on site, we will ensure appropriate support is in place for them. Our staff and volunteers will be aware of the mental health of children and their parents and carers and will contact the DSL or a deputy if they have any concerns.

3.Designated Safeguarding Leads

William Tyndale Primary School aims to have the DSL (or at least one deputy DSL) available on site as far as is possible in current COVID-19 circumstances in line with statutory guidance[2]. Where this is not

possible the DSL (or deputy) will be available via phone, Skype or online video - for example when working from home. Where a trained DSL (or deputy DSL) is not on site, in addition to the above, another member of the SLT will assume responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.

This might include updating and managing access to our online management system and liaising with the offsite DSL (or deputy DSL) and children's social workers where they require access to children in need and/or to carry out statutory assessments at the school. All staff on site will be notified whether the DSL, deputy DSL, or other member of the SLT, is on site each day and the process for speaking to them.

The DSL will continue to engage with social workers and co-ordinate remote attendance of case holding staff at all multi-agency meetings.

DSLs should have sufficient time, especially in the first weeks of term to:
- Provide additional support to staff and children regarding any new safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Handle referrals to children's social care and other agencies where appropriate

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[2] Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2019.

DSLs will coordinate multi-agency working within the school, including communication with school nurses. This is important for safeguarding and supporting wellbeing, as school nurses have continued virtual support to pupils who have not been in their setting.

4.Reporting a concern
Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the school's Child Protection Policy, this includes making a report using our usual process, using our intranet system, which is remotely accessible from home.

All staff are reminded of the need to report any concern immediately and without delay. Where staff are concerned about an adult working with children in the school, they should report the concern to the Head teacher as soon as possible. This should be done verbally and followed up with an email to the Head

teacher within 24 hours. Concerns around the Head teacher should be directed to the Chair of Governors, Carole Desfrancois, and if the concern is in relation to the Chair of Governors or anyone on the governing body, the LADO should be informed directly at lado@islington.gov.uk
Advice may also be sought from the Principal Officer Safeguarding in Education on 0207 527 5595.

5.Information Sharing
The school continues to have appropriate regard to data protection and the GDPR, in that they do not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. Further advice about information sharing can be found at paragraphs 82-88 of KCSIE 2020. The school will share information with a new setting where vulnerable children or children at risk of harm move schools. As a minimum the following will be shared:

- EHC plan
- CIN/CP information and plans
- Social worker contact details
- PEP and name of Virtual School Headteacher
Any safeguarding concerns

6.Attendance monitoring and Inclusivity
From 8 March 2021 the school will record attendance in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended) for all children.
For those children who have been confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable and who have been advised to shield and stay at home and for children who are self-isolating or quarantining, we will mark the register with code X. Absences for children who are following clinical or public health advice related to COVID-19 will not be penalized.
The school will call parents/carers to follow up on any absence of any child, who is expected to attend school and for children who are self-isolating or shielding.

Current guidance states that local authorities and education settings do not need to complete their usual day-to-day attendance processes to follow up on non-attendance. However, we will continue to be aware of all children's visibility through our virtual and online teaching and learning processes. In relation

to
vulnerable children, we will liaise with social workers and family support workers to agree with parents/carers whether children subject to child protection plans or child-in-need (CIN) plans should be attending school and will follow up on any pupil who is expected to attend and does not using our usual first day absence processes. We will also follow up with parents/carers who have arranged care for their child/ren but the children do not then attend.

William Tyndale Primary School will, when communicating with parents and carers, confirm emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available.

For those children who are unable to do remote working because they do not have access to a device or an internet connection, the school will provide support for disadvantaged children, as per government guidance.

In all circumstances where a vulnerable child does not take up their place at school, or stops attending without prior agreement and notification, William Tyndale Primary School will notify their social worker.

7.Safeguarding training and induction.

During the period that COVID-19 measures are in place, our DSL (and deputies), who are all trained, will continue to be classed as a trained DSL (or deputy DSL) even if they miss their refresher training.

All existing school staff have had safeguarding training and have read part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019). The DSL will communicate with staff any new local arrangements, so they know what to do if they are worried about a child.

Where new staff are recruited, or new volunteers join William Tyndale Primary School, they will continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction which includes child protection training. If staff are deployed from another education or children's workforce setting to our school, we will take into account the DfE supplementary guidance on safeguarding children during the COVID-19 pandemic and will accept portability as long as their current employer confirms in writing that the member of staff/volunteer:

- has been subject to Safer Recruitment checks including an enhanced DBS and children's barred list check;
- has received appropriate safeguarding training;
- is not currently subject to an ongoing disciplinary investigation; and
- is not considered unsuitable to work with children.

Upon arrival at William Tyndale Primary School they will be given a copy of our child protection policy, including this addendum and our local processes as well as including confirmation of DSL arrangements for that day and subsequent days.

8.Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff

It remains essential that people who are unsuitable are not allowed to enter the children's workforce or gain access to children. When recruiting new staff, William Tyndale Primary School will continue to follow safer recruitment processes, including, as appropriate, relevant sections in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020) (KCSIE).

In response to COVID-19, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) has made changes to its guidance on standard and enhanced DBS ID checking to minimise the need for face-to-face contact. If we are utilising volunteers, we will continue to follow the checking and risk assessment process as set out in paragraphs **183 to 188** of KCSIE, 2020. Under **no circumstances** will a volunteer who has not been checked be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity.

We will continue to follow the legal duty to refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed or poses a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult. (Full details can be found at paragraph **181** of KCSIE). We will continue to consider and make referrals to the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) as per paragraph **143** of KCSIE, 2020 and the TRA's 'Teacher misconduct advice for making a referral by emailing Misconduct.Teacher@education.gov.uk

Whilst acknowledging the challenge of the current national emergency, it is essential from a safeguarding perspective that any school is aware, on any given day, which staff/volunteers will be in the school or college, and that appropriate checks have been carried out, especially for anyone engaging in regulated activity. We will continue to keep the single central record (SCR) up to date as outlined in paragraphs **164 to 171** in KCSIE, 2020.

9. Covid-19 Testing

William Tyndale will offer COVID-19 Lateral Flow tests to members of staff who are coming into school as per the Government's recent guidance.

10.Online safety in schools and colleges

William Tyndale Primary School will continue to provide a safe environment for all our pupils, including online. This includes the use of an online filtering system. Where students are using computers in school, appropriate supervision will be in place.

Staff can also contact The UK Safer Internet Centre's professional online safety helpline for support and any online safety issues they face.

To deliver remote learning safely it should be seen as an extension of school. The school has clear expectations about what behaviour is acceptable from all staff as per the school staff code of conduct which helps everyone to understand the appropriate way to behave. The staff code of conduct not only protects children from abuse but also limits or prevents any allegations or incidents of inappropriate behaviour. It also ensures everyone - staff, volunteers and children feel safe, respected and valued.

The school adheres to the principles set out in the guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings published by the Safer Recruitment Consortium to help satisfy itself that the Staff Code of Conduct is robust and effective.

The Safer Recruitment Consortium have published an addendum covering the different situations faced with and to help schools apply safe systems of work during the pandemic; here is the link:

Addendum to Safe Working Practice during COVID

There are also helpful resources from LGfL e.g. 20 Safeguarding Considerations for remote learning Livestreaming (lgfl.net)

Support is also available from:

- Safe remote learning, published by SWGfL

- Online safety and safeguarding, published by LGfL, which covers safe remote learning

- The National Cyber Security Centre, which includes Video conferencing services: security guidance for organisations and Video conferencing services: using them securely

- Safeguarding and remote education during coronavirus (COVID-19)

Annex C of Keeping children safe in education

- Internet matters

- London Grid for Learning

- Net-aware - for support for parents and careers from the NSPCC

- Parent info - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online

- Thinkuknow - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online

- UK Safer Internet Centre - advice for parents and carers

Children should be signposted to reporting any concerns and to get appropriate practical support from:

- Childline - for support

- UK Safer Internet Centre - to report and remove harmful online content

- CEOP - for advice on making a report about online abuse

The school will take into account guidance from the UK Safer Internet Centre on safe remote learning and from the London Grid for Learning on the use of videos and livestreaming to help plan online lessons and/or activities and plan them safely.

11.Children and online safety away from school and college
It is important that all staff who interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk of harm or neglect. Any such concerns should be dealt with in line with our Child Protection Policy and, where appropriate, referrals should still be made to children's social care and, if required, the police.

Online teaching should follow the same principles as set out in the school's code of conduct.

We will ensure any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements. All staff are made aware of the following considerations when delivering virtual lessons, especially where webcams are involved:

- No 1:1 teaching unless agreed in advance with SLT
- Teaching will take place within normal school hours
- Staff and children must wear suitable clothing, as should anyone else in the household.
- Any computers used should be in appropriate areas e.g. not in bedrooms and the background should be blurred.
- Live classes should be recorded so that, if any issues were to arise, the video could be reviewed.
- Live classes should be kept to a reasonable length of time, or the streaming may prevent the family 'getting on' with their day.
- Language must be professional and appropriate, including any family members in the background.
- Staff must only use platforms provided by William Tyndale Primary School to communicate with pupils
- Staff should record the time, date and attendance of any sessions held.

This list is not exhaustive and may be amended if and when necessary.

12. Special Educational Needs and Online Safety

The school will work with experts including educational psychologists, speech and language therapists and teaching assistants to design at home learning and support for children with education, health and care (EHC) plans.

Where it is difficult to deliver the provision specified in the Education Health and Care plan, decisions on how this could be overcome will be made on a case-by-case basis.

The school recognises the different needs of children with special educational needs and disabilities in terms of online safety and commits to the following:

- Educating and engaging parents on the principles of online safety so they know the dangers of what unsupervised internet access can create.

- Encourage parents to check what their children are doing online and using parental controls on their computer so that they are comfortable that children are not wandering into dangerous territory.

For parent-led information on SEND online safety and mental health:
SEND https://www.specialneedsjungle.com/keeping-children-with-send-from-getting-lost-in-digital-space/

13. **Mental Health and Wellbeing: Supporting children not in school**
William Tyndale Primary School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all pupils. Where the DSL has identified a child to be on the edge of social care support, or who would normally receive

pastoral

-type support in school, we will ensure that a communication plan is in place for that child or young person. Details of this plan will be recorded on our concern tracking template, as well as a record of any contact made with the child and/or their family.

The communication plans may include: email contact and/or phone contact, William Tyndale Primary School and our DSL will work closely with all stakeholders to maximise the effectiveness of any communication plan which will be reviewed regularly (at least once a fortnight). Where concerns arise, the DSL will consider any referrals as appropriate.

The school will share safeguarding messages on its website and; this will include identifying how children can talk to the DSL or their deputies if they need to.

We recognise that school is a protective factor for children and the current circumstances could affect the mental health of children and their parents/carers. Our teaching staff are aware of this and will take this into account when setting work for pupils and also in relation to their expectations of the quantity and quality of pupils' work whilst they are at home.

14.Mental Health and Wellbeing: Supporting children and Staff in school

William Tyndale Primary School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students and we will continue to be a safe space for all children to attend and flourish. The Head teacher will ensure

that appropriate staff are on site and staff to pupil ratio numbers are appropriate in order to maximise safety.

We 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 COVID-19. Health and Safety procedures will continue to be high priority.

We 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. This will be bespoke to each child and recorded in line with our normal procedures.

Where William Tyndale Primary School has concerns about the impact of staff absence – such as our Designated Safeguarding Lead or first aiders – we will discuss them immediately with the Governing Body in conjunction with the local authority.

The school understands there are extra pressures on staff during this difficult period. Any member of staff can contact the Education Support Partnership:

Education Support Partnership Helpline:
Telephone: 08000 562 561 (24/7)
Text: 07909 341229
Website: https://www.educationsupport.org.uk/

For support around Covid-19:

Coronavirus helpline
Email DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
Telephone 0800 046 8687

15. Peer on Peer Abuse

William Tyndale Primary School recognises the increased risk of online peer-on-peer abuse for any children, in situations where there is less normal face-to-face contact and heightened use of social media. Where we receive a report of peer on peer abuse, we will follow the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE, 2020 and of those outlined within our Child Protection Policy. We will listen and work with children, parents/carers and multi-agency partners to ensure the safety and security of the child concerned. All concerns and actions will be recorded in line with our normal safeguarding processes and appropriate referrals made.

Peer-on-peer abuse is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:

- Bullying (including cyber-bullying)

- Physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling or otherwise causing physical harm

- Sexual violence and sexual harassment

- Upskirting

- Sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery or sharing nudes)

- Initiation/hazing type violence and rituals

as per paragraph 29 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020

16. Support from Islington Council

In Islington, the following people and services will continue to provide support and guidance as appropriate to enable the DSL to carry out their role effectively:

- Head of the Virtual School: 0207 527 3993 or matthew.blood@islington.gov.uk
- Principal Officer Safeguarding in Education: 0207 527 5595 or michelle.virdi@islington.gov.uk

- C

hildren's Services Contact Team: 0207 527 7400 for urgent child protection referrals and csct@islington.gov.uk for all other queries and CIN and Targeted Family Support Referrals

- LADO: 0207 527 8102 or lado@islington.gov.uk

- Families can access support directly via the Bright Start 5 – 19s helpline – talk directly to a practitioner • Tel: 020 7527 4343 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday or Email earlyhelp@islington.gov.uk.