

Appendix to Child Protection Policy: National Lockdown (January – March 2021) and during periods of remote learning due to Covid-19

Guidance taken from:

Restricting attendance during the national lockdown: schools (DfE January 2021).

Vulnerable Children (DfE definition):

- Are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children 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 and it is determined, following risk assessment, that their needs can be as safely or more safely met in the educational environment.
- Have been assessed as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued attendance.

Lockdown:

- During the period of Lockdown, a DSL (AE/SB) is on site or easily contactable by phone.
- Places have been offered in school to any vulnerable children in accordance with DfE and LA requirements.
- A return to the LA has been completed by AE, including a list of our vulnerable children, their vulnerable status and whether they are sending their children into school. This is to enable Solihull Children's Services to focus their resources on children not attending school.
- AE/BM are calling families who choose not to send their children in each week. A LA Risk Assessment has also been completed for each of these families by AE/BM. AE also has regular contact with Social Workers involved with our families.
- In addition, regular calls are being made to any families not engaging with remote learning via Teams or Purple Mash and paper packs of work are provided where needed. BM has maintained regular contact with SEND children.
- AE is maintaining and updating Vulnerable Child information on a daily/weekly basis during the period of lockdown.
- School continues to follow all statutory safeguarding guidance in KCSIE 2020.
- School have followed all DfE and LA advice on providing a safe online environment for learning at home (SB/Website).

Remote learning:

We recognise that online technology is invaluable for enabling children and young people to continue their learning, keep in touch with friends and feel connected with the outside world. But changes in online behaviour can put young people at risk of online abuse.

Keeping pupils, students and teachers safe during remote education is essential. Teachers delivering remote education online are aware that the same principles set out in the school or college staff behaviour policy (known as code of conduct) will apply. Where staff are communicating with children and young people online, via video calls or livestreaming, it will be done in accordance with our 'Remote Learning Policy'. This has been informed by the guidance set out in KCSIE 2020 and Safeguarding and remote education during coronavirus (COVID-19) March 2021.

On the school website, which provides the hub for remote learning, every class page on the website has a detailed section on online safety and directs parents to our 'online safety' page, which has clear links to keeping safe as well as how to report concerns. There is also a Remote Learning guide for parents which has been sent to all our families. Remote learning expectations are clearly explained in the Remote Learning guide for Parents (and were explained to all children during the autumn term 2020 by staff) and are contained within the information on the website about our Remote Learning offer.

*This appendix has been shared with all staff 3/2/21 and emailed to governors.
Approved at Governors meeting 8/2/21*

AE 26/3/21