

Christ the King Catholic Academy

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St Cuthbert's Catholic Academy

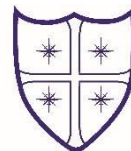
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Care - Courtesy - Concern

COVID-19 School closure arrangements for Safeguarding and Child Protection - Addendum

From Monday 20th March 2020 parents of pupils within our schools were asked to keep their children at home, wherever possible. Schools were asked to remain open only for those children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response. This opening was for a limited number of children: classified who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Key Contacts

Role	Name	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Sarah Smith	admin@ctkacademy.co.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Miss Heather Martin	admin@sccacademy.co.uk
Chair of Director	Mr Barry Leyland	
Safeguarding Directors	Mrs Julie Mcleod/Mr Paul Desborough	
Other Safeguarding Leads	Mr Daniel Flannigan Salmon Miss Amy Murphy Miss Lyndsay Truelove Mrs Esther Hemmingway Mr Matt Collins Miss Frankie Greenhalgh Miss Hannah Knighton	

Vulnerable children

Vulnerable children include 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 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.

Those with an EHC plan will be risk-assessed in consultation with the Local Authority 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.

Eligibility for free school meals in and of itself should not be the determining factor in assessing vulnerability.

The school's Designated Safeguarding Team know who our most vulnerable children are. They have the flexibility to offer a place to those on the edge of receiving children's social care support.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies 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. The lead person for this will be: Mr Daniel Flannigan Salmon

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. In circumstances where a parent does not want to bring their child to an education setting, and their child is considered vulnerable, the social worker and Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academy staff will explore the reasons for this directly with the parent.

Where parents are concerned about the risk of the child contracting COVID19, Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies or the social worker will talk through these anxieties with the parent/carer following the advice set out by Public Health England.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will encourage our vulnerable children and young people to attend a school, including remotely if needed.

Attendance monitoring

Local authorities and education settings do not need to complete their usual day-to-day attendance processes to follow up on non-attendance.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies and social workers will agree with parents/carers whether children in need should be attending school – Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will then follow up on any pupil that they were expecting to attend, who does not. Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will also follow up with any parent or carer who has arranged care for their child(ren) and the child(ren) subsequently do not attend.

To support the above, Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will, when communicating with parents/carers and carers, confirm emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available.

In all circumstances where a vulnerable child does not take up their place at school, or discontinues, Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will notify their social worker.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies has a Designated Safeguarding Team in each school with a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) on site at all times. When this is not the Executive Head teacher and/or Executive Deputy Head teacher, they will be available via phone or online video - for example when working from home.

The role of the DSL on site will include updating and managing access to child protection online management system, MyConcern and liaising with the other members of the safeguarding team/children's social workers as required.

It is important that all Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic academy staff and volunteers have access to a trained DSL (or deputy). On each day staff on site will be made aware of that person.

The DSL will continue to engage with social workers, and attend all multi-agency meetings, which can be done remotely.

Reporting a concern

Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the school Safeguarding Policy, this includes making a report via MyConcern, which can be done remotely.

In the unlikely event that a member of staff cannot access their MyConcern from home, they should email the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Executive Headteacher. This will ensure that the concern is received.

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 use contact via phone/email marked URGENT.

Concerns around the Executive Headteacher should be directed to the Chief Executive Officer: Helen O'Neil. Blackpool Local Authority will continue to offer support in the process of managing allegations.

Safeguarding Training and induction

DSL training is very unlikely to take place whilst there remains a threat of the COVID 19 virus.

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.

All existing school staff have had safeguarding training and have read part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019). The DSL should 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 enter Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies, they will continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction by a Designated Safeguarding Lead.

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 the current employer confirms in writing that:-

- the individual has been subject to an enhanced DBS and children's barred list check
- there are no known concerns about the individual's suitability to work with children
- there is no ongoing disciplinary investigation relating to that individual

Upon arrival, they will be given a copy of the receiving setting's child protection policy, confirmation of local processes, fob access and confirmation of DSL arrangements.

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, Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will continue to follow the relevant safer recruitment processes for their setting, including, as appropriate, relevant sections in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019) (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.

Where Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies are utilising volunteers, we will continue to follow the checking and risk assessment process as set out in paragraphs 167 to 172 of KCSIE. Under no circumstances will a volunteer who has not been checked be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies 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 163 of KCSIE.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will continue to consider and make referrals to the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) as per paragraph 166 of KCSIE and the TRA's 'Teacher misconduct' advice for making a referral.

During the COVID-19 period all referrals should be made 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. As such, Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will continue to keep the single central record (SCR) up to date as outlined in paragraphs 148 to 156 in KCSIE.

Online safety in schools and colleges

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will continue to provide a safe environment for children attending school, including online learning. This includes, in school, the use of an online filtering system. Where children are using computers and devices in school, appropriate supervision will be in place.

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. Any such concerns should be dealt with as per the Child Protection Policy and where appropriate referrals should still be made to children's social care and as required, the police.

Online teaching should follow the same principles as set out in the Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies code of conduct.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will ensure any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements.

Below are some things to consider when delivering virtual lessons, especially where webcams are involved:

- No live streaming of lessons.
- Staff and children being filmed as part of uploading work, must wear suitable clothing, as should anyone else in the household.
- Any computers used should be in appropriate areas, for example, not in bedrooms unsupervised.
- Language must be professional and appropriate, including any family members in the background.

Supporting children not in school

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its Children and Young people.

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, they should ensure that a robust communication plan is in place for that child or young person. These children will be identified and monitored through welfare protocol.

Details of this plan must be recorded on MyConcern along with a record of contact made.

The communication plans can include; remote contact, phone contact, door-step visits. Other individualised contact methods should be considered and recorded, following authorisation from DSL.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies and its DSLeads will work closely with all stakeholders to maximise the effectiveness of any communication plan.

This plan will be reviewed regularly (supervision style) and where concerns arise, the DSL will consider any referrals as appropriate.

The school will share safeguarding messages on its website and social media pages.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies recognises that school is a protective factor for children and young people, and the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents/carers. Teachers at Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies need to be aware of this in setting expectations of pupils' work where they are at home.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies 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. Bespoke support and for children attending the setting additional to day-to-day critical childcare (eg. Pastoral support) will be recorded on MyConcern.

Supporting children in school

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies will continue to be a safe space for all children to attend and flourish. The senior leader on site each day will ensure that appropriate staff numbers and pupil ratios are appropriate, to maximise safety.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies 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.

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies 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 when additional support is in place we will record on MyConcern.

Where Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies have concerns about the impact of staff absence, such as our Designated Safeguarding Lead or first aiders this will be discussed immediately with the Chief Executive Officer.

Peer on Peer Abuse

Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies recognise that during the closure a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims.

Where a 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 Child Protection Policy.

The school will listen and work with the young person, parents/carers and any multi agency partner required to ensure the safety and security of that young person.

Concerns and actions must be recorded on MyConcern and appropriate referrals made.

School Names: Christ the King and St Cuthbert Catholic Academies

Date: 4th April 2020

Date shared with staff:6th April 2020