Appendix to Safeguarding policy January 2020

This appendix is informed by the following Government guidance document.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers

Published 27 March 2020

The principles of KCSIE remain the key guidance regardless of whether pupils are in St Ursula’s or a hub school. The provider acting as the Hub lead should continue to provide a safe environment, ensure staff and volunteers have appropriate checks and risk assessments carried out if required. St Ursula’s is in a hub with Bonus Pastor and as such if any STU pupils attend so will two member of STU staff.

The way STU is operating at present is fundamentally different to business as usual, however several important safeguarding principles remain the same:

* The pupil’s best interests come first
* Any member of staff who has a safeguarding concern about any child should continue to act and act immediately in line with school policy
* DSL or deputy should be available
* The school should continue to try and protect pupils online

St Ursula’s will continue to review the policy considering the changing situation. Updates and advice from Greenwich and the Government will be used and amendments made as required. The following actions will be undertaken considering new guidance.

* Pupils with an ECHP or are a CIN or a CLA will be closely monitored and contacted on a weekly basis by allocated members of staff.
* A weekly monitoring report on the above children will be sent to the LA and logged on the school form
* Any staff who have a concern regarding a pupil must inform the safeguarding team via email Safeguarding@stursulas.com and not via admin.
* All concerns should be shared immediately in line with the school safeguarding policy.
* Those pupils who are CLA will also be supported by their respective Virtual School and any concerns we have will be reported to the Social Worker and the Virtual School.
* Pupils, who are a CIN, will also have contact with their social worker and all concerns from school will be communicated to the appropriate contact.
* Staff must follow the KCSIE part one regarding contact with pupils and any communication must be via SMHW or via the admin email address.
* All staff have a responsibility to inform Safeguarding of any concerning comments from pupils on SMHW or on any other virtual communication.
* At no point must staff share private telephone numbers or use any personal email addresses.
* HODs and HOYs have a responsibility to monitor the work set in line with school protocols and be alert to any comments causing concern.
* In line with our school policy, any member of staff who has a concern regarding a member of staff should contact the Head Teacher.
* SLT have identified pupils who do not meet the Governments’ vulnerable definition but are monitored by school if on site. These will also receive a weekly call and information logged centrally.
* Parents/Carers will be kept updated regarding online safety links and systems via email or via the website.

In line with Government guidelines vulnerable pupils (ECHP, CIN or CLA) should attend school, however upon discussion with social workers involved with the family, it may be decided that this would not be in the pupil’s best interest. School will be in weekly contact and will ascertain the need for provision.

Local Authorities have the key day-to-day responsibility for the delivery of social care to vulnerable children. School staff will continue to work with and support children’s social workers to help protect vulnerable pupils.

Where a pupil may be attending another setting, all relevant welfare and child protection information will be shared.

For any CLA pupil, any change in school should be led and managed by the VSH with responsibility for the pupil. They will provide the new setting with the PEP and social care information.

This appendix will be reviewed and adapted as necessary and following further guidance when received. 31st March 2020