

Safeguarding Addendum B (May 2020) during COVID-19 Transition

New documentation: Coronavirus (COVID-19): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers response to the expected return back to schools on June 1st 2020.

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

In the light of new national safeguarding guidance issued to schools on 20.05.20 Aston Lodge Primary School has updated its safeguarding policy.

The statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' remains in force and reminds all employees of their safeguarding responsibilities. Where new staff are recruited, or new volunteers enter the school, they will continue to be provided with an appropriate safeguarding induction.

Aston Lodge Primary School recognises the impact of 'lockdown' and the associated social isolation this has brought to students and their families and that new safeguarding issues and concerns may arise as students return back to school. All staff in school will be vigilant as children return and promptly report any issues through the appropriate channels ie: vigilant to changes in a student's behaviour or emotional state which can be displayed in a range of different ways, all of which could be an indication of an underlying problem. Those staff with specific safeguarding and pastoral responsibilities will continue to have additional dedicated time to ensure the welfare and safety of all students. School will utilise advice, guidance and resources from other welfare agencies to support students' mental health and well-being.

The school will signpost students experiencing mental health and well-being issues to the appropriate support partners and is committed to raising the awareness of the key signs and indicators of mental health and well-being with all staff.

The school recognises the vital role that the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) plays in school and we will have at least one safeguarding officer and a DSL on site at all times on a rota basis. The contact details for the safeguarding team are below:

Mrs Sarah Cronin (DSL) – scronin@astonlodgeprimary.org

Miss Annette Burton (DDSL) – aburton@astonlodgeprimary.org

Where any of the above are not available, staff can contact:

Andy Jessop - Executive Improvement Partner for WPT on 07827 420424 or

ajessop@wickersleypt.org

The onsite education of vulnerable students will continue in circumstances where school, parents/carers and social care, following a detailed risk assessment, feel that their needs will be met more safely in school. It is the school's expectation that, where it is safe to do so and where attendance is appropriate, vulnerable students will be educated in school. This

will not necessarily be for a full day and the timetable will be agreed in advance with all parties.

This Addendum will be communicated to all employees in the school, so they can be familiar with the new guidance and procedures.

When our school is recruiting new staff, we will continue to follow the relevant Safer Recruitment processes including all checks and risk assessments, inline with 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' guidance.

The school will develop a checklist for good practice to support teachers delivering online lessons. The school accepts that there is no obligation for teachers to deliver virtual lessons from home, but should they choose to do so teachers must maintain strict professional standards. This will include using an appropriate platform, maintaining professional dress and presentation, ensuring a neutral background, avoiding members of their own family entering into the camera view, staff should only contact children during normal school hours, or at times agreed by the school leadership team, talking to students regularly about the benefits and risks of the online world etc. Please note this list is not exhaustive.

Further advice is available from the NSPCC learning, Safer Internet and Gov.uk websites;

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/2020/march/undertaking-remote-teaching-safely>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/helpline/professionals-online-safety-helpline>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-and-remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Aston Lodge Primary School will continue to protect students by working together with other local welfare partners and respond to any changes in Local Safeguarding Partnership procedures.

Previous revised safeguarding procedures introduced in Addendum A (March 2020) will remain in place including; the whistleblowing policy, online safety for students who are remote learning from home and ongoing welfare checks for vulnerable students - preferably speaking directly to the student face-to-face (appropriately socially distanced), by phone or video link.

Aston Lodge Primary School

Miss Annette Burton