

ADDENDUM TO CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

This document is to supplement Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2019 (KCSIE) and has been added as an addendum to the safeguarding policy

[Guidance for Schools and other Educational Settings](#) - 27 March 2020.

Royal Russell is currently operating in response to coronavirus (COVID-19) which means that the school is operating fundamentally different to business as usual; however, many of the important safeguarding principles remain the same:

- With regard to safeguarding, the best interests of children must always continue to come first
- If you have a safeguarding concern about any child, you must continue to act immediately and report the concern on the safeguarding platform: [MyConcern](#)
- Nathalie Hart, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will be available for any queries or guidance. Email: nhart@royalrussell.co.uk or Mobile number 07850 518 642.
- It is essential that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the children's workplace and/or gain access to children. Staff should be extra vigilant when working online remotely with children to ensure that they continue to be protected when they are online.

Royal Russell should, as far as is reasonably possible, take a Whole School approach to safeguarding. This will allow us to be confident that any new policies and processes in response to COVID-19 are not weakening our approach to safeguarding or undermining our child protection policy.

[Vulnerable Children](#)

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those children and young people who have an EHCP plan. Please click the link above to read more about vulnerable children.

[Attendance](#)

Pupils are asked to register via Firefly, our online platform.

The DfE has introduced a [daily online attendance](#) form to keep a record of children of critical workers and vulnerable children who are attending school. This allows for a record of attendance for safeguarding purposes and enables the school to provide accurate, up to date data to the department on the number of children taking up places.

[Staff Training and Safeguarding Induction](#)

Where new staff are recruited, or new volunteers enter the Royal Russell Community, they will continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction, which may be online. They will also be given access to an up to date Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, to part 1 of KCSIE 2019 as well as be shown how to use MyConcern.

Children moving Schools and Colleges

It will be important for any school or college whose children are attending another setting to do whatever they reasonably can to provide the receiving institution with any relevant welfare and child protection information. This will be especially important where children are vulnerable. The receiving institution should be aware of the reason that the child is considered vulnerable and any arrangements in place to support them. As a minimum the receiving institution should, as appropriate, have access to a vulnerable child's EHCP plan, child in need plan, child protection plan or, for looked-after children, their personal education plan and know who the child's social worker is (and, for looked-after children, who the responsible VSH is). This should ideally happen before a child arrives and, where that is not possible as soon as reasonably practicable. Any exchanges of information will ideally happen at DSL level, and likewise between special educational needs co-ordinators, Ms Kate El Asmar (Senior School) and Ms Henriette Smith (Junior School). However, it is acknowledged this may not always be possible within the shortest timescale.

Safer recruitment/ Volunteers and movement of staff

Where Royal Russell is recruiting new staff, the School will continue to follow the relevant safer recruitment processes for their setting, including, as appropriate, relevant sections in part 3 of 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 to verify identity but the documents used will be checked face-to-face once the School is able to do so.

Mental Health

Negative experiences and distressing life events, such as the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents. Teachers should be aware of this in setting expectations of pupils' work where they are at home. Please click on Mental Health for the most recent Government advice.

NDH

30.03.20