



Annex 1

COVID-19 school closure arrangements for Safeguarding and Child Protection at Yeadling Infant and Nursery School March 2020.

School Name: Yeadling Infant and Nursery School

Date: 31st March 2020

Date shared with staff: 31st March 2020

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1. Context

From 20th March 2020 parents were asked to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and for schools to remain open only for those children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response - who absolutely need to attend. Schools and all childcare providers were asked to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable, and children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

This addendum of the Yeading Infant and Nursery School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy contains details of our individual safeguarding arrangements in the following areas:

Key contacts

Role	Name	Contact Number	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Rupinder Kaur Ahluwalia	All staff has phone number.	rahuwalia.312@lgflmail.org
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Kuldip Cheema	All staff has phone number.	kcheema.312@lgflmail.org
Headteacher	Rupinder Kaur Ahluwalia	All staff has phone number.	rahuwalia.312@lgflmail.org
Chair of Governor	Mr Sumit Parmar	Via Headteacher	sumpar@hotmail.co.uk

2. 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. Senior leaders, especially the Designated Safeguarding Lead (and Deputy) 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. Yeading Infant and Nursery School 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: Mrs Rupinder Kaur Ahluwalia.

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 Yeading Infant and Nursery School will explore the reasons for this directly with the parent. Where parents are concerned about the risk of the child contracting COVID19, Yeading Infant and Nursery School or the social worker will talk through these anxieties with the parent/carer following the advice set out by Public Health England. Yeading Infant and Nursery School will encourage our vulnerable children to attend Yeading Junior School in the interim.

3. 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. Yeading Infant and Nursery School and social workers will agree with parents/carers whether children in need should be attending school – Yeading Infant and Nursery School will then follow up on any pupil that they were expecting to attend, who does not. Yeading Infant and Nursery School 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, Yeading Infant and Nursery School 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, Yeading Infant and Nursery School will notify their social worker.

4. Designated Safeguarding Lead

Yeading Infant and Nursery School has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and a Deputy DSL.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Mrs Rupinder Kaur Ahluwalia

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Mrs Kuldip Cheema

The guidance stipulates that the host school has overall safeguarding responsibility. However, there will still need to be strong communication between all schools involved at this point to make sure safeguarding is not missed.

Make sure relevant information on vulnerable children is shared - and who is responsible for monitoring is clearly agreed/recorded.

Staff do need an induction to the new site which covers safeguarding arrangements.

Staff onsite needs to be clearly recorded each day.

The optimal scenario is to have a trained DSL (or deputy) available on site at Yeading Junior School whilst we accommodate provision jointly. Where this is not the case a trained DSL (or deputy) will be available to be contacted via phone or online video - for example when working from home. Mrs Rupinder Ahluwalia (DSL) must be informed at all times.

Where a trained DSL (or deputy) is not on site, in addition to the above, a senior leader will assume responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site. This might include updating and liaising with the offsite DSL (or deputy) and as required liaising with children's social workers where they require access to children in need and/or to carry out statutory assessments at the school or college. It is important that all Yeading Infant and Nursery School staff and volunteers have access to a trained DSL (or deputy) whilst at Yeading Junior School. On each day staff on site will be made aware of that person is and how to speak to them. The DSL will continue to engage with social workers, and attend all multi-agency meetings, which can be done remotely.

5. Reporting a concern

Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the school Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Policy and contact DSL or Deputy DSL.

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 follow procedures in Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Policy. If there is a requirement to make a notification to the headteacher whilst away from school, this should be done verbally and followed up with an email to the headteacher. Concerns around the Headteacher should be directed to the Chair of Governors: Mr Sumit Parmar.

6. Safeguarding Training and induction

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.

Yeading Infant and Nursery School 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, and that appropriate checks have been carried out, especially for anyone engaging in regulated activity. As such, Yeading Infant and Nursery School will continue to keep the single central record (SCR) up to date as outlined in paragraphs 148 to 156 in KCSIE.

7. Online safety in schools

Yeading Infant and Nursery School will continue to provide a safe environment, including online. This includes the use of an online filtering system.

Where pupils are using computers in school, appropriate supervision will be in place.

8. Supporting children in school

Yeading Infant and Nursery School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its pupils.

Yeading Infant and Nursery School will continue to ensure that Yeading Junior School is a safe space for all children to attend and flourish in the interim. The Headteacher will ensure that appropriate staff are on site and staff to pupil ratio numbers are appropriate, to maximise safety.

Yeading Infant and Nursery School 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.

Yeading Infant and Nursery School will ensure that where we care for children of critical workers and vulnerable children on site at Yeading Junior School, we ensure appropriate support is in place for them.

9. Peer on Peer Abuse

Yeading Infant and Nursery School recognises 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 of the Safeguarding Policy.

The school will listen and work with the young person, parents/carers and any multiagency partner required to ensure the safety and security of that young person. Concerns and actions must be recorded and appropriate referrals made.

10. Mental Health

Mental Health is Priority:

The government recognises we need to be realistic about school work for children (whilst it is important for there to be some) for some people this may be the least of their trouble and at some point a lot of people will be ill (students and parents). We also know this is creating a lot of anxiety for children (calls to childline are higher than ever before) Everyone will face ups and downs. Keep reminding students and families of support services available to them and looking after themselves/each other is key.

Useful links:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/depression-anxiety-mental->

[health/?utm_source=Adestra&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Talking%20to%20a%20child%20worried%20about%20coronavirus%20%28COVID-19%29&utm_campaign=CASPAR-2019-03-30](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/health/?utm_source=Adestra&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Talking%20to%20a%20child%20worried%20about%20coronavirus%20%28COVID-19%29&utm_campaign=CASPAR-2019-03-30) - NSPCC has created a webpage with advice for parents/carers who are worried about a child's mental health/anxiety relating to the current situation.

Also further links- <https://emergingminds.org.uk/recommended-resources-supporting-children-and-young-people-with-worries-and-anxiety-links/> and a podcast for parents/carers - <https://emergingminds.org.uk/podcast-how-can-we-best-support-children-and-young-people-with-their-worries-and-anxiety/>

<https://youtu.be/9OS8vbjr2-Q> - Coronavirus explained in Makaton

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publication/childrens-guide-to-coronavirus> - Children's guide to coronavirus

<https://nursedottybooks.files.wordpress.com/2020/03/dave-the-dog-coronavirus-1-1.pdf> - nice resource to support young children in understanding coronavirus.