

## **Appendix to Safeguarding Policy during Covid-19**

Based on the new government guidance which has been released, this is a summary of our key actions

### Key principles

- the best interests of children must always continue to come first
- if anyone in a school has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act and act immediately
- a DSL or deputy should always be available
- it is essential that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the children's workforce and/or gain access to children
- children should continue to be protected when they are online
- any new policies and processes in response to coronavirus should not weaken our approach to safeguarding or undermine our child protection policy.

Ensure our Safeguarding Policy is reviewed where needed as more children come into school.

Ensure the staff know that the DSL and Deputy DSLs will be on site and how to contact them each day.

The Head has confirmed that Risk Assessments are in place and link together safeguarding and health and safety. All safeguarding information remains up-to-date. All safeguarding/child protection files are up-to-date including actions and outcomes.

DSL is keeping up-to-date with all safeguarding issues and new information.

There is no need to redo DBS for staff away from school.

The mental health of some of our pupils may have been impacted and it is important that these children are raised and monitored through PMG & CMG involving our Well-Being mentor Heads of year groups and Form Tutors/teachers are aware of this and are vigilant in keeping an eye out for any signs of this.

Winchester House continues to do all that we reasonably can to ensure children at home are safe online and regular contact is made with pupils and parents.

In addition we understand that tensions in lockdown may have led to a rise in incidents such as domestic violence and we need to be vigilant.

Staff should refer to our Bereavement policy as necessary.

## **Points to consider from the government's latest guidance on COVID-19 safeguarding in schools**

Staff may need to identify new safeguarding concerns about individual children as they see them in person following school closures. DSL will remind staff in training before re-opening, what they should do if they have any concerns about a child including new concerns where children are returning.

The DSL and the Safeguarding team will make sure that all relevant safeguarding and welfare information held on all children including returning children remains accurate. Winchester House will be doing all we reasonably can to ask parents and carers to **advise us of any changes** regarding welfare, health and well-being that we should be aware of before a child returns.

We will make sure through the daily form tutor Google Meet times in Upper School and class and 1:1 GoogleMeets in Pre-Prep that children at home and not yet back at school are safe and well and report any concerns to the DSL or relevant section Heads. (7&8/ 5&6, Seligman, Pre-Prep)

Winchester House will continue to work closely with the local Northamptonshire Safeguarding Board as the gradual return to school continues.

Winchester House's DSLs training is up to date and valid.

Form Tutors and bubble leaders will do their utmost to make sure that children returning to school are safe online and Winchester House's IT Support Department will ensure that the appropriate filters and monitoring systems are in place and report back to the Head of Online Safety (CL) and/or the DSL with any concerns.

As online learning becomes more familiar, there is the risk of complacency and parents and children will need reminders about safe practice as outlined in our Upper School and Pre-Prep Online learning policies and when we come out of this period.

SL 8.6.2020

Useful references.

Support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online includes:

- [Thinkuknow](#) provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) on staying safe online
- [Parent info](#) is a collaboration between Parentzone and the NCA providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations
- [Childnet](#) offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support
- [Internet Matters](#) provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world
- [London Grid for Learning](#) has support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online, including tips to keep primary aged children safe online
- [Net-aware](#) has support for parents and carers from the NSPCC and O2, including a guide to social networks, apps and games
- [Let's Talk About It](#) has advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) has tips, advice, guides and other resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online services

Government has also provided:

- [support for parents and carers to keep children safe from online harms](#), includes advice about specific harms such as online child sexual abuse, sexting, and cyberbullying

- [support to stay safe online](#) includes security and privacy settings, blocking unsuitable content, and parental controls