

Covid 19: Addendum to the ESCC Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy for Schools, Colleges and Settings

Updated 22nd May 2020 (Version 2)

Approved remotely by Governing Board 28th May 2020

Although Alfriston Primary School has reopened to fewer children than there are on roll, the principles and processes of the existing child protection and safeguarding policy remain in place.

Equally the principles and processes outlined in [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) remain in place and must be adhered to.

To support practice at this time staff should be familiar with the additional DfE guidance: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers](#).

Staff are advised that guidance from the government is fluid, so day to day practice should also be informed by any updates to existing guidance or emerging guidance. Staff will be advised of updates as necessary.

The existing channels for raising concerns about children, or adults in the workforce, remain operational and as outlined in the main policy i.e. SPOA, via 01323 464222 or the LADO via the [online referral](#).

Existing processes for safer recruitment, as outlined in KCSiE, will be adhered to with the exception of [temporary changes to identity checking guidelines](#) from the DBS.

Vulnerable children attendance is expected, where it is appropriate for them (that is, where there are no shielding concerns for the child or their household, and/or following a risk assessment for children with an EHC plan), so that they can gain the educational and wellbeing benefits of attending. Vulnerable children – regardless of year group – that have not been attending in the recent period are expected to return to nursery, early years, school or college provision where this would now be appropriate for them to do so.

Alfriston Primary School will support ESCC with contact and monitoring of [vulnerable children](#) who are not attending school, and share details with ESCC about levels of contact with families and social workers, as per ESCC guidance [here](#).

In line with existing practice, staff should maintain an attitude of: *it could happen here*, and in that respect be mindful of **all** forms of possible abuse or specific safeguarding issues for **all** children.

Staff should be *additionally* mindful and vigilant around online abuse, peer on peer abuse and mental health, within the context of children spending more time online and being anxious about the current situation.

Equally staff should be *additionally* mindful and vigilant around possible indicators of domestic violence or abuse within a context of families being confined with additional stresses and anxieties.

If staff have any concerns with any child (whether they are attending or not) these should be raised immediately with the DSL or designated member of SLT.