

Child Protection Policy Addendum

Whilst government requirements stipulate that schools are closed for most students and learning is conducted at home due to the outbreak of COVID-19 a number of additional measures have been put in place to ensure the safety and well-being of our students. These measures reflect guidance given by Hertfordshire local safeguarding partners and the local authority. They should be read in conjunction with normal statutory safeguarding practice and safeguarding principles as outlined in our Child Protection Policy.

- The school is open for the children of key workers and those children classed as vulnerable according to government regulations (we do not have any students attending other educational settings)
- Students on the school site are supervised by our school staff who have all had appropriate safeguarding training and recruitment checks
- There is a DSP on site and is contactable whenever the school is open to follow up on any safeguarding concerns
- There is a record of staff and students on the school premises each day
- The school follows government guidance on monitoring attendance at registrations each day and additionally monitors student attendance at all online lessons, following up on any student absence
- Staff access and pass on any safeguarding concerns remotely through CPOMs to the school's safeguarding team who take prompt appropriate action
- DSPs and any member of staff continue to contact Herts Children's Services and/or the police if they think a student is at risk of harm
- Mental health support continues to be provided by the school counsellor via email/text/phone call to students who were being seen for counselling before the school closure
- The school's pastoral team regularly check on with the well-being of students who are a pastoral concern (due to a variety of reasons such mental health issues, home circumstances etc) to monitor their safety, for any student with a social worker the relevant member of staff is in communication with them
- The well-being of CLA students continues to be carefully checked and their progress monitored by the Virtual School along with the AHT responsible for Looked After Children
- Any staff newly appointed during this time period undergo the same safeguarding training and safer recruitment checks
- All staff have completed online safety training in order to support students with online safety and staff have been reminded of school procedures about working safely online with particular reference to guidelines on video conferencing and communication
- Students and parents are sent regular reminders about online safety issues
- The school website has been updated with a range of relevant online support information to advise students and families who may require additional support at this time, including online safety and health and well-being support services

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