



Education Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy

June 2020

Annex A

Additional Addendum - The safeguarding arrangements for the wider opening of education settings to children from 1st June 2020

This template addendum has been developed by members of the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (DDSCP) Education Hub to support schools to maintain and appropriately adapt their safeguarding roles and responsibilities. It must be amended to suit the individual circumstances of the education setting and with updated government Covid 19 guidance as and when this is published.
See [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance for schools and other educational settings.](#)

Name of school/college: St. Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy & Nursery

Addendum approved by:

Name	Role	Date
G Novak-Lemmings	Head of School	05.06.20
Emma Farmer	Chair of the Local Governing Body	08.06.20
Sara Bolton	Safeguarding Governor	09.06.20

Date addendum published by the setting and made available on the website	09.06.20
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Addendum review dates and changes

Review date	By whom	Summary of changes made	Date implemented

Mission Statement

By working together at St Mary's School, we aim, through Jesus Christ, to share God's love, helping our community to learn, grow and make a difference.

Schools/colleges need be familiar with the following recommended government guidance relating to the plan for wider opening, when considering their safeguarding arrangements:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-primary-schools>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

These guidance documents are frequently updated and so schools/colleges need to be alert to any significant changes in later versions.

This additional Addendum also reflects any updated advice from Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and from the Local Authority (for example: about children with Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans, the Local Authority Designated Officer and Children's Social Care, Reporting Mechanisms, Referral Thresholds and Children in Need).

Key information is found here: <https://www.ddscp.org.uk/coronavirus-safeguarding-arrangements/>

Key Contacts during COVID-19 Arrangements

Role	Name	Contact details
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Mrs Gill Novak-Lemmings	01332 554831
Deputy DSL(s)	Mrs Rebecca Smith Mrs Philippa Brentnall Miss Bushra Akthar	01332 554831 admin@stmarys.derby.sch.uk
Other contactable DSL(s) and/or deputy DSL(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DSL at (school/college name)• Deputy DSL at (school/college name)	Mrs Denise Andrews Family Liaison Officer St. Mary's CVA	01332 554831 MDEFLO@stmarys.derby.sch.uk

Role	Name	Contact details
Designated member of Senior Leadership Team if DSL (and deputy) cannot be on site	Mrs Rebecca Smith	MDEKS1@stmarys.derby.sch.uk
Designated Teacher for Looked After Children	Mrs Gill Novak-Lemmings	01332 554831
Headteacher/Principal	Mrs Gill Novak-Lemmings	01332 554831
Chair of Governors/Trustees	Mrs Emma Farmer	admin@stmarys.derby.sch.uk
Designated Governor/Trustee:	Ms Sara Bolton	admin@stmarys.derby.sch.uk
Other key safeguarding agencies as noted in the school/college safeguarding/child protection policy 2019/20, Addendum April 2020	First Contact Team	01332 641172
	LADO	01332 642376
	Careline	01332 786968
	NSPCC	0808 800 500

1. Scope and Definitions

This additional Addendum applies during the period of school closure due to COVID-19, and the wider opening of an educational setting. It reflects updated advice from our local safeguarding partners Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group and Derbyshire Constabulary).

It sets out changes to our normal Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy in light of the Department for Education's Guidance collection for [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance for schools and other educational settings](#), and specifically [Coronavirus: safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers](#) (updated May 2020).

This does not replace the schools/colleges Child protection /Safeguarding policy 2019/20, and child protection/safeguarding policy addendum, Summary of any key COVID-19 related safeguarding and child protection changes, April 2020.

2. Vulnerable Children

The Department for Education's (DfE's) [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance on vulnerable children and young people](#) continues to apply.

There is the flexibility to offer a place to those who do not meet the Department for Education's definition of 'Vulnerable' but where the Academy has concerns. This will continue and will now include, 'those who could benefit from continued attendance'. This might include children and young people who are on the edge of receiving support from Children's Social Care services, adopted children, NEET, those living in temporary accommodation, those that are young carers and others at the school's, college's and local authority's discretion.

St. Mary's staff will continue to work with children's social workers, the Designated Lead, virtual school heads, and any other relevant safeguarding, health and pastoral partners to help protect children.

3. Maintaining contact

Class teachers and TAs will ring their class once a week to make welfare checks and support any questions regarding home learning. The academy's Family Liaison Officer (FLO) and SENDCo are in regular contact with all children, including those with an EHCP, who are classed as vulnerable, once a week via phone call or email and doorstep checks are made if any families do not answer. Children who are vulnerable/have SEND needs have been encouraged to come into school from the beginning by our SENDCo, FLO and the Head of School to add reassurance about the safety procedures that have been put in place.

4. Reporting Concerns

All staff and volunteers must continue to act on any concerns they have about a child immediately. It is still vitally important to do this.

The DDSCP has issued updated guidance about managing risk to vulnerable children during lockdown, assessing and supporting their needs. The local authority early help service /multi-agency teams (MATS) have a dedicated link member of staff for every Derby school to share relevant information, offer support and signpost to services to ensure children and families have the right support at the right time. In addition, the Children's Services Professional Consultation Line telephone 07812 300 329 have extended their hours to 9am to 4pm.

5. Designated Safeguarding Lead (and Deputy) Arrangements

As more children return, St. Mary's CVA will have a trained DSL or Deputy DSL available on site to coordinate the safeguarding arrangements and liaise with social workers. If activities take place offsite there will be arrangements in place to provide access to a designated lead.

All academy staff and volunteers will have access to a trained DSL (or deputy) and know on any given day who that person is and how to speak to them.

In exceptional circumstances:

- a trained DSL (or deputy) from the academy can be available to be contacted via email, phone or online video - for example, working from home.
- sharing trained DSLs (or deputies) with other schools or colleges (who should be available to be contacted via phone or online video) can be arranged.

St. Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy will ensure there are sufficient staff members who can provide pastoral support to help meet the needs of children as they return.

The DSL will provide support to teachers and pastoral staff to ensure contact is maintained with children and their families. This will be for those children and families in school and more importantly for those who are not in school.

Where possible staff should try to speak directly to children to help identify any concerns. Staff should be encouraged (where possible) to make calls from the academy via school or college phones and devices. Where staff use personal phones to make calls, they should withhold their personal number.

When communicating with families, this should only be done through school email addresses or recognised channels, within school hours and on school devices. It is recommended that any staff member contacting parents and families is made aware of the school's policy around etiquette and content.

The Designated Lead will ensure great care will be taken in the content, storage and dissemination of any records made.

The DSL will ensure all staff will be kept up to date with government and local changes in respect of children returning to the St. Mary's and the academy will update parents/carers and make the relevant guidance available on the website.

6. Staff Recruitment, Movement of Staff, Training and Induction

Where new staff or volunteers are recruited, they will continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction. Supply and agency staff, who may be recruited for the wider opening of the academy will be given a safeguarding induction, which includes local changes and responses to Coronavirus and local safeguarding policies and procedures.

Some schools/colleges are 'borrowing' staff from other schools/colleges. This will continue to be necessary in some cases and the usual expectations will apply around verification, training, induction to the setting they are temporarily working in and knowledge of the school's/college's safeguarding policies and procedures.

The school/college will be clear in how they will access information, both hard copy and electronic especially with regards to temporary log in and administration privileges. The school/college will revisit processes for data sharing and storage, particularly if key staff members are not on site, using "borrowed staff" and/or using other schools.

External visitors should be kept to a minimum, but St. Mary's Voluntary Academy will make themselves available for Children's Social Workers, and other relevant partners e.g. Health, who may need to see children on site.

7. Risk Assessments

St. Mary's Voluntary Academy will work with the latest guidance provided by the government on:

- Risk assessments;
- Home school transport;
- Managing the academy site;
- Staggering start times and finish times;
- First aid;
- Social distancing;
- Personal Protective Equipment;
- Managing an outbreak of Coronavirus.

The local authority Quality, Standards and Performance Team has supported discussions and development across the city about the return to school and the required risk assessment processes, providing sample templates, tools and resources. See <https://schoolsportal.derby.gov.uk/professionaladvocacyforchildrenineducationpace/dailybulletins/>

Children and young people with EHC (education and health care) plans in Derby have been allocated a key worker. Work will continue in partnership with the key worker, other key health and social care professionals, and the family to review individual EHCP risk assessments in light of a wider opening of the school/college:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance>

For children and young people with other complex needs, such as children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND) who do not have an EHC plan, the school/college or local authority can now exercise its discretion to do a risk assessment and offer a place.

St. Mary's Voluntary Academy will continue to undertake and review risk assessments for children and young people with EHC plans who remain at home. Risk assessments will continue to be undertaken to ensure:

- they assist decisions on which children and young people, with an EHC plan, should be attending their educational setting, taking into account the changing circumstances of individual children and young people, with an aim that they can be brought back into face to face education when it is right for them;
- when attendance is not appropriate, assessments can help make decisions about the support children and young people should receive at home, noting that circumstances may have changed;

- they provide helpful information to Headteachers and other professionals in planning for, and supporting, those children and young people with an EHC plan when they do return to educational settings

8. Monitoring attendance

It is expected that vulnerable children will attend where it is appropriate for them to do so and where there are no shielding concerns for the child or their household; where they are not clinically vulnerable and or/following a risk assessment for those children with a EHC plan and or clinical vulnerabilities.

We will continue to work with children and their families not in school and will work with the relevant children and their families to return to school/college.

Parents/carers will not be penalised if their child does not attend education provision.

St. Mary's Voluntary Academy will resume taking the attendance register from the 1st June, and will complete the online Educational Settings Form (DfE daily updates).

In addition, schools/colleges in Derby will be completing a weekly returns list of pupils in school to the local authority to help identify with social care partners pupils who are attending and especially those who are deemed as vulnerable and are not attending. This will be enhanced by input and support from the local authority Quality, Standards and Performance Team.

9. Transport and safeguarding

Parents and staff have been informed of the government's advice regarding public transport and keeping safe using their own cars.

10. Safeguarding Pupils and Teachers Online

St. Mary's Voluntary Academy will still refer to NSPCC guidance, when engaging in remote learning. The guidance is unchanged since its previous update (April 21st 2020).

The academy will consider greater communication with parents around working online, to provide reassurances that they are working in a safe environment and encourage them to make their child's online activity as safe possible. This may mean referring families to resources: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-and-remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Communication with parents around home learning is via text, phase email, the school website, or the school twitter feed. Staff meetings are held for staff using MS Teams software.

The DfE recommends that the academy will signpost any queries, and in regard to data protection, to their Data Protection service.

11. Peer on Peer Abuse

Usual reporting of suspected or actual peer on peer abuse applies. All staff need to be aware that incidents may have happened out of school, whilst children are not attending, and these may require a safeguarding response when they return and the academy is made aware.

12. Mental Health and Well-being

St. Mary's Voluntary Academy will continue to support children in respect of their emotional health and wellbeing and acknowledge that, on a child's return into the school/college, lockdown may have had, and may continue to have, an adverse impact upon their health, wellbeing and safety.

There is guidance available (updated May 21st) to assist and all staff will be made familiar with this: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-pupils-wellbeing>

All staff will be updated around how to identify, refer and respond to a child presenting concerns and know how schools/colleges can receive help:
<https://derbyandderbyshireemotionalhealthandwellbeing.uk/>

A new email address for professionals to access this new service is: ddccg.tict@nhs.net

13. Monitoring Arrangements

This policy (June 2020, Annex A 2020) will be reviewed and updated as Guidance from the Local Safeguarding Partners, other relevant agencies or DfE is received, and as a minimum will be reviewed every 4 weeks by the Head of School.

At every review, it will be read and approved by the full governing board.

14. Resources

Department for Education coronavirus helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care.

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Standard opening hours:

8am to 6pm – Monday to Friday

10am to 4pm – Saturday and Sunday

If you work in a school, have the schools/colleges unique reference number (URN or UK PRN) available.

Also see QSP Daily Bulletins

<https://schoolportal.derby.gov.uk/professionaladvocacyforchildrenineducationpace/dailybulletins/>