

Addendum - COVID 19 School Safeguarding Policy Supplement

School roles have been changing since April 2020 from providing educational provision on site to providing child care arrangements to a limited number of children along with distance learning. From 29th June 2020 the role will be changing again to provide face to face schooling for up to a third of school pupils along with continuing to develop distance learning.

The reference to the New All Wales Safeguarding Procedures 2019 have now been implemented by the Welsh Government All schools will be offered on –line training through the North Wales Local Safeguarding Board in June / July 2020

This addendum compliments your existing school safeguarding policy

Introduction

There is a legal duty placed upon all staff that work within educational establishments to report both adults at risk and children at risk. This duty continues during these times although with some changes in how services are delivered is clearly evident.

Safeguarding and protecting is everybody's responsibility

Effective safeguarding requires:

- Each practitioner and organisation to play their part and contribute to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of the child;
- Information-sharing in accordance with the Information sharing to safeguard children: guidance;
- Intra and multi-disciplinary working in order to better understand the individual and their circumstances and their needs for care, support and safety;

- Co-productive working relationships with the child at risk, their family and carers to establish what matters to them and to ensure they feel respected and informed.
- For the purposes of this guidance a duty to report to the local authority will be taken to mean a referral to social services who, alongside the police, have statutory powers to investigate suspected abuse or neglect. Concerns about abuse and neglect may be present when a child or adult at risk is already known to Social Services. Do not presume because they are known that there is no need to report. Always report.

Staff in the schools or working from home

Keeping Learners Safe Welsh Government Guidance (2015) is still to be used and staff should familiarise themselves with this guidance. All staff need to be made aware of and comply with the new Wales Safeguarding Procedures 2019. A refresher of the school policy would also be strongly advisable including emphasis on an areas of change. The procedures are available on line and provide useful guidance on reporting concerns:

<https://www.childreninwales.org.uk/o>

[Welsh Government: Safeguarding](#)

[Llywodraeth Cymru: Canllawiau Diogelu](#)

Designated Safeguarding Person (DSP)

There must be a trained DSP or Deputy DSP present on site whilst the school is open. This person should be noted on the [Welsh Government poster](#) located at the entry of the school.

Insert details where school staff have changed or are not available due to shielding

| ROLE | NAME | CONTACT DETAILS |
|--|--|--|
| Designated safeguarding lead (DSL) | Mr Daniel Wilde | Dwilde@denbighhighschool.co.uk 01745 812485 |
| Deputy DSL | Dr Paul Evans | pevans@denbighhighschool.co.uk 01745 812485 |
| Other contactable DSL(s) and/or deputy DSL(s): | Mrs R Williams Mrs K Wynne-Jones | Williamsr1@denbighhighschool.co.uk 01745 812485 Kwynne-jones@denbighhighschool.co.uk |
| Designated member of senior leadership team if DSL (and deputy) can't be on site | Mrs R Williams | 01745 812485 |
| Headteacher | Dr Paul Evans | pevans@denbighhighschool.co.uk 01745 812485 |
| Local authority designated officer (LADO) | Cindy Thomson- Service Manager Safeguarding and Practice Quality | Russell House Churton Road Rhyl Denbighshire LL18 3DP Ffon/Tel: 01824 712829 Mobile: 07876577538 Cindy.thomson@denbighshire.gov.uk |
| Chair of governors | Mrs K Sutherland | c/o Governorsclerk@denbighhighschool.co.uk |

Concerns / Disclosures / Referrals

It is important for staff to pass on any concerns that they have immediately to their Designated Safeguarding Person

As mentioned in the introduction, there is a legal duty on staff to do so. Staff should do this in line with their normal policy and guidance provided in training.

The DSP must then make the decision whether this reaches the threshold for a child protection referral. This referral process is covered in the Wales Safeguarding Procedures 2019 The DSP will usually decide whether to make a referral to social services, but it is important to note that any staff member can refer their concerns to social services or the police directly providing as much information as possible.

The DSP must contact Children's Gateway as soon as a problem, suspicion or concern about a child becomes apparent, on 01824 712200. Children's Gateway is open 9am to 5pm. The Out Of Hours (EDT) number is 0345 053 3116 All referrals must be sent via e – mail cfsgateway@denbighshire.gov.uk. If there is an immediate risk of harm to an individual, then the Police should be called on 999.

Allegations against Staff- Concerns about Practitioner and those in positions of Trust (Section 5 of the Safeguarding Procedures 2019)

If anybody sees anything that concerns them about the behaviour of a member of staff, then this must be reported immediately to the Headteacher. If the concern is regarding the behaviour of the Headteacher then the member of staff must contact the Head of Education Services or the Education Safeguarding Officer on 01824 – 718169, The LA Officer will then advise on the next steps to be taken if the concern reaches the threshold the staff member will be advised and supported on the next course of action and referral to Social Services Children's Gateway Team (01824 - 712200).

Children not attending the school

Schools may have concerns about children who are not currently attending school. Headteachers must make sure that they put suitable arrangements in place to support all children but especially those they have concerns about.

Whilst staff are involved in the distance learning of children they must be aware of the Distance Learning Policy. The policy goes through things to look out for when using authorised social media platforms.

Keeping safe online guidance

Here's a link to all of the Keeping safe online welsh government guidance ...
<https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/online-safety/key-information/>

If staff are made aware of any safeguarding concern regarding a child or adult who is not required to attend the school, they must follow the same referral process above by notifying the DSP.

Further information about Education safeguarding guidance during the coronavirus pandemic can be found on the Welsh Government website [here](#)

Monitoring attendance

Schools will resume monitoring attendance pupils who are attending school. Where any child we expect to attend school doesn't attend, or stops attending, we will:

Follow up on their absence with their parents or carers, by [\[add details of how you'll do this and by whom?\]](#)

➤ Notify their social worker, where they have one

We will make arrangements with parents and carers to make sure we have up-to-date emergency contact details, and additional contact details where possible due to the current situation.

Well- being of Pupils

Children returning to school

School staff will be aware of the possible effects that this period may have had on pupils' well-being. They will look out for behavioral signs, including pupils being fearful, withdrawn, aggressive, oppositional or excessively clingy, to help identify where support may be needed.

Where vulnerability has been identified, students will be offered specific support from school behavior and pastoral support staff (eg. ELSA, Seasons for Growth, Therapeutic Inclusion, Learning Coaching) in the first instance. Support and advice will be sought from outside agencies as appropriate. Safeguarding referrals will continue to be reported via the school's reporting system safeguarding@denbighhighschool.co.uk and where necessary via the CFS Gateway at Denbighshire County Council.

Children at home

Where possible, we will continue to offer support to pupils working on -line from home. Where vulnerability has been identified, students will be offered specific support from school behavior and pastoral support staff (eg. ELSA, Seasons for Growth, Therapeutic Inclusion) in the first instance. This may take the form of a telephone interview in the first instance. Referral to outside agencies for support will be made as appropriate where more specialist support is required.

We will also signpost all pupils, parents/carers and staff to other resources to support the well-being and best interests of the pupil

When setting expectations for pupils learning remotely and not attending school, teachers will bear in mind the potential impact of the current situation on both children's and adults' well-being.

Denbigh High School is an Operation Encompass School.

<https://www.operationencompass.org/>