

COVID-19 school closure arrangements for Safeguarding and Child Protection at Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary School

Context

From 20th March 2020 parents were asked to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and for schools to remain open only for those children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response - who absolutely need to attend. Schools and all childcare providers were asked to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable, and children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home. This addendum of Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary Safeguarding, and Child Protection policy contains details of our individual safeguarding arrangements in the following areas:

Key contacts

Role Name	Name	Contact number	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Helen Pye	07834 227773	headteacher@sutton-on-the-forest.n-yorks.sch.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding	Becky Ovenden	07816 869509	b.ovenden@sutton-on-the-forest.n-yorks.sch.uk
Chair of Governors	Howard Hall		CofG@sutton-on-the-forest.n-yorks.sch.uk
Safeguarding Governors	Helen Morris and Denise Craig	07882 677625 07756 934336	hmorris@sutton-on-the-forest.n-yorks.sch.uk d.craig@sutton-on-the-forest.n-yorks.sch.uk

Vulnerable children

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those children and young people up to the age of 25 with education, health and care (EHC) plans. Those who have a social worker include children who have a Child Protection Plan and those who are looked after by the Local Authority. A child may also be deemed to be vulnerable if they have been assessed as being in need or otherwise meet the definition in section 17 of the Children Act 1989. Those with an EHC plan will be risk-assessed in consultation with the Local Authority and parents, to decide whether they need to continue to be offered a school or college place in order to meet their needs, or whether they can safely have their needs met at home. This could include, if necessary, carers, therapists or clinicians visiting the home to provide any essential services. Many children and young people with EHC plans can safely remain at home. Eligibility for free school meals in and of itself should not be the determining factor in assessing vulnerability. Senior leaders, especially the Designated Safeguarding Lead (and deputy) know who our most vulnerable children are. They have the flexibility to offer a place to those on the edge of receiving children's social care support. Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will continue to work with and support children's social workers to help protect vulnerable children. The lead person for this will be: Helen Pye

There is an expectation that vulnerable children who have a social worker will attend an education setting, so long as they do not have underlying health conditions that put them at risk. In circumstances where a parent does not want to bring their child to an education setting, and their child is considered vulnerable, the social worker and Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will explore the reasons for this directly with the parent. Where parents are concerned about the risk of the child contracting COVID19, Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will talk through these anxieties with the parent/carer following the advice set out by Public Health England. Sutton-on-

the-Forest CE Primary will encourage our vulnerable children and young people to attend a school, including remotely if needed.

Attendance monitoring

Local authorities and education settings do not need to complete their usual day-to-day attendance processes to follow up on non-attendance. Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will agree with parents/carers whether children in need should be attending school – Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will then follow up on any pupil that they were expecting to attend, who does not. Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will also follow up with any parent or carer who has arranged care for their child(ren) and the child(ren) subsequently do not attend.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and a Deputy DSL.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Helen Pye.

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Becky Ovenden

Wherever possible there will be a trained DSL (or deputy) available on site. Where this is not the case a trained DSL (or deputy) will be available to be contacted via phone for example when working from home. Where a trained DSL (or deputy) is not on site, in addition to the above, a senior leader will assume responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site. This might include updating and managing access to child protection online management system, CPOMS and liaising with the offsite DSL (or deputy).

Reporting a concern

Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the school Safeguarding Policy, this includes making a report via CPOMS, which can be done remotely. In the unlikely event that a member of staff cannot access their CPOMS from home, they should email the Designated Safeguarding Lead, This will ensure that the concern is received. Staff are reminded of the need to report any concern immediately and without delay. Where staff are concerned about an adult working with children in the school, they should inform their headteacher- this should be done verbally and followed up with an email to the headteacher. Concerns around the Headteacher should be directed to the Chair of Governors: Howard Hall.

Supporting children not in school

Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its Children and Young people. Communication with vulnerable persons will be on-going as needed and identified through risk assessment.

Supporting children in school

Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students. Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will continue to be a safe space for all children to attend and flourish. The Headteacher will ensure that appropriate staff are on site and staff to pupil ratio numbers are appropriate, to maximise safety. Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will refer to the Government guidance for education and childcare settings on how to implement social distancing and continue to follow the advice from Public Health England on handwashing and other measures to limit the risk of spread of COVID19. Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will ensure that where we care for children of critical workers and vulnerable children on site, we ensure appropriate support is in place for them. This will be bespoke to each child and recorded on CPOMS. Where Sutton-on-the-

Forest CE Primary has concerns about the impact of staff absence – such as our Designated Safeguarding Lead or first aiders – will discuss them immediately with governors.

Peer on Peer Abuse

Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary recognises that during the closure a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims. Where a school receives a report of peer on peer abuse, they will follow the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE and of those outlined within of the Child Protection Policy. The school will listen and work with the young person, parents/carers and any multiagency partner required to ensure the safety and security of that young person. Concerns and actions must be recorded on CPOMS and appropriate referrals made of that young person.

Online safety in schools

Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary will continue to provide a safe environment, including online. This includes the use of an online filtering system. Where students are using computers in school, appropriate supervision will be in place.

Online safety children not in school

Families who have been loaned ICT equipment through school to enable online working have all agreed to ensure that appropriate monitoring is in place to safeguard children. Vital Education have ensured that all the security systems that are in place on-site, are in place for off-site. Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary School will continue to remind all families of the need to ensure their children are safe online. Parents and carers need to be aware of what their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access and be clear who from Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary (if anyone) their child is going to be interacting with online. Parents must be certain that providers and people they access online are reputable. The school's website contains links to further advice and support:

The majority of children will not be physically attending Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary School. Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary School will ensure, as much as it reasonably can, that children are safe, tasks that are set by staff to complete online will be vetted first. When staff interact with children, including online, they will continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any concerns should be dealt with as per the Child Protection Policy and where appropriate, referrals should still be made to children's social care and as required the police.

All staff will continue to follow the school's acceptable use policy and contact with families will be via staff email addresses. Staff will not communicate directly with pupils through social media or email except when classes use Google for Education, which can be monitored.

Mental Health

Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary School is aware that the current circumstances can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents. Teachers are aware of this in setting expectations of pupils' work when they are at home.

When children of critical workers and vulnerable children are on site, we will ensure appropriate support is in place for them. We will access additional support and advice if and when necessary through Compass Buzz, North Yorkshire's programme for children's mental health.

Sutton-on-the-Forest CE Primary

30 March 2020

Helen Pye

