Addendum to Child Protection Policy COVID-19 school reopening arrangements for Safeguarding and Child Protection at Belthorn Academy Primary School

Date: 1.6.20

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.

On May 10th, The Government announced that schools will gradually reopen their doors from June 1st. This addendum surrounds this procedure and details additional safeguarding arrangements and considerations for all staff in this transitional period.

Role	Name	Contact number	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs H Rowan	01254 55620	head@belthornacademy.co.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/s	Miss M Egan Mrs. K Drugan	01254 55620 01254 55620	m.egan@belthornacademy.co.uk kdrugan@belthornacademy.co.uk
Headteacher	Mrs. H Rowan	01254 55620	head@belthornacademy.co.uk
Chair of Governors	Mrs. Y Brown	01254 55620	Yvonne.brown@belthornacademy.co.uk
Safeguarding Governor	Mrs. Y Brown	01254 55620	Yvonne.brown@belthornacademy.co.uk

Belthorn Academy Primary School will ensure that's all staff are aware that **anybody** can make a referral:-

Lancashire County Council Contact details

MASH - 0300 123 6720 – **Emergency Duty Team** - – (Out of hours) 0300 123 6722

LADO- 01772 536694   **School Safeguarding Helpline** – 01772 531196

Blackburn with Darwen Contact Details

MASH – 01254 666400   **Emergency Duty Team** - – (Out of hours) 01254 587547

Identifying and addressing any new safeguarding or welfare concerns and managing ongoing concerns	School staff, volunteers or all stakeholders may identify safeguarding concerns about individual children as they see them in person following partial school closures. Belthorn Academy Primary School recognises that all safeguarding concerns must be reported and acted upon immediately, including new concerns when children are returning. The DSL or Deputy DSL will be given the resources and time that enable them to fulfil the role effectively, supporting staff and children with any new concerns. If there are special working arrangements in regards to the DSL or Deputies, Belthorn Academy will ensure that all staff are made aware of such arrangements. Belthorn Academy will ensure all staff are aware of important numbers and understand that anybody can make a referral. Belthorn Academy recognises the importance that all safeguarding and welfare records held on individual children remain accurate. It is in the best interests of the child, that home and school communicate, to ensure that school is aware of any changes regarding welfare, health and wellbeing. We recognise the continued importance for school and college staff to work with and support children's social workers, the local authority virtual school head for looked-after and previously looked-after children and any other relevant safeguarding and welfare partners. It is a priority that school will act upon any updated advice received from the local authority regarding children with education, health and care plans, the LADO and children's social care, reporting mechanisms, referral thresholds. School will continue to input into the local arrangements working alongside partner agencies.
Managing Allegations against adults	Staff will continue to follow principles and guidance as in KCSIE Part 4 in view of reporting or acting upon any concerns surrounding an adult or volunteer who may pose a safeguarding risk to children. Belthorn Academy will ensure that all staff are aware of reporting processes. Both Lancashire county council and Blackburn with Darwen contact numbers are available to staff – and are displayed in school.
Peer on Peer Abuse	Belthorn Academy recognises that in cases of peer on peer sexual abuse or sexual violence, the principles of KCSIE 2019 Section 5 should be followed but a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims, given the different circumstances schools and colleges are operating in. These circumstances should be taken into account when planning or revising any risk assessments.

Children who are not yet returning to school	The DSLs at Belthorn Academy will provide support to teachers and staff to ensure that contact is maintained with children (and their families) who are not yet returning to school. Staff will try (where possible) to speak directly to children to help identify any concerns. Belthorn Academy and its DSLs will work closely with all stakeholders to maximise the effectiveness of any communication plan. Belthorn Academy recognises that school is a protective factor for children and young people, and the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents/carers. Teachers at Belthorn Academy will need to be aware of this in setting expectations of pupils' work where they are at home. School will continue to ensure a safe online environment for those who remain at home. We will continue to ensure that appropriate filters and monitoring systems are in place to protect children when they are online on the school systems including the Showbie platform for online learning. All staff who interact with children, including online, will remain vigilant and continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns should be escalated and reported.
Supporting Vulnerable children	For vulnerable children, attendance is expected, where it is appropriate for them to do so. (This may be following individualised risk assessments for children with an EHC Plan.) We will continue to liaise with, and notify social workers if a child is absent from school. Where children with a social worker do not attend when expected, school will follow this up by contacting a parent or carer..
Safer Recruitment, Staff movement & Staff training	In the recruiting of new staff, Belthorn Academy will continue to follow the relevant safer recruitment processes as detailed in KCSIE 2019 Part 3. Where Belthorn Academy is utilising volunteers, we will continue to follow the checking and risk assessment process as set out in paragraphs 167 to 172 of KCSIE. Under no circumstances will a volunteer who has not been checked be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity. It will remain that new staff or volunteers will receive a complete safeguarding induction. In the cases of staff who are moving between sites to support current and temporary arrangements, school will assess the level of induction required.

	Whilst acknowledging the challenge of the current situation, it is essential from a safeguarding perspective that any school is aware, on any given day, which staff/volunteers will be in the school or college, and that appropriate checks have been carried out, especially for anyone engaging in regulated activity. As such, Belthorn Academy will continue to keep the single central record (SCR) up to date as outlined in paragraphs 148 to 156 in KCSIE.
Consideration	Due to the changing circumstances, this addendum will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis, whilst being shared with all stakeholders.

Head teacher	**Helen Rowan**
Chair of Governors	**Yvonne Brown**