



Safeguarding Policy Addendum

Last revised: January 2021

From 4th January 2021 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 and to Early Years children excluding Reception.

Schools have been asked to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable, children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home and, for Lyndhurst School, children who attend Pre-Reception. This addendum of Lyndhurst School Safeguarding Policy contains details of our individual safeguarding arrangements in the following areas:

Context	1
Vulnerable children	2
Attendance monitoring	2
Designated Safeguarding Lead.....	2
Reporting a concern	3
Distant Learning.....	3
Mental Health.....	4
Staffing.....	4

Key Contacts

Role Name	Name	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Andrew Rudkin	v.tutcher@lyndhurstschool.co.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Gina Thomson	g.thomson@lyndhurstschool.co.uk
Headmaster and DDSL	Andrew Rudkin	headmaster@lyndhurstschool.co.uk
Chair of Governors	Paul McCreedy	p.mccreedy@lyndhurstschool.co.uk
Safeguarding Governor	Audrey Innes	

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.

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.

Lyndhurst School will continue to work with and support children's social workers to help protect vulnerable children. This includes working with and supporting children's social workers.

The lead person for this will be Victoria Tutchter. 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 Lyndhurst School will explore the reasons for this directly with the parent. Where parents are concerned about the risk of the child contracting COVID19, Lyndhurst School or the social worker will talk through these anxieties with the parent/carer following the advice set out by Public Health England. Lyndhurst School 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. Lyndhurst School and social workers will agree with parents/carers whether children in need should be attending school – Lyndhurst School will then follow up on any pupil that they were expecting to attend, who does not. Lyndhurst School 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.

To support the above, Lyndhurst School will, when communicating with parents/carers and carers, confirm emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available. In all circumstances where a vulnerable child does not take up their place at school, or discontinues, Lyndhurst School will notify their social worker.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Lyndhurst School has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and two Deputy DSL's.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Victoria Tutchter

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Andrew Rudkin and Gina Thomson

There should always be a trained DSL (or deputy) available on site. If for any reason this is not the case a trained DSL (or deputy) will be available to be contacted via phone or online video - 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 information and liaising with the offsite DSL (or deputy) and as required liaising with children's social workers where they require access to children in need and/or to carry out statutory assessments at the school or college. It is important that all Lyndhurst School staff and volunteers have access to a trained DSL (or deputy). On each day staff on site will be made aware of who that person is and how to speak to them. The DSL will continue to engage with social workers, and attend all multi-agency meetings, which can be done remotely.

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 to the DSL, which can be done remotely. This can be done by emailing any concern to dsl@lyndhurstschool.co.uk or by making a phone or call via Teams to the DSL or Deputy DSL.

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 report the concern to the 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: Paul McCready.

Distant learning

Lyndhurst School continues to reinforce the importance of children being safe online

Staff will continue to use their best endeavours to monitor online safety.

Staff will continue to support parents in monitoring online safety and the behaviour of the children whilst using the school online platform Microsoft Teams.

Where any concerns or issues arise, the member of staff will report to the DSL or DDSL and the parents and child/children will be supported in identifying what the issues are and the appropriate action will be taken and support given to the child and parents where necessary in line with our existing Safeguarding Policy.

The use of Microsoft Teams as our online platform for teaching and communicating with parents and children is being constantly monitored and updated by the DSL and deputy head, Gina Thomson, to respond to any issues that arise during the time that children are engaging in distant learning at home including monitoring appropriate peer-to-peer communication.

Please see also the Distant Learning Plan and Online safety policy for further information on this.

The Distant learning provision is high-quality and safe, and aligns as closely as possible with in-school provision.

The use of Microsoft Teams as our online platform for teaching and communicating with parents and children is being constantly monitored and updated by the DSL and deputy head, Gina Thompson, to respond to any issues that arise during the time that children are engaging in remote learning at home including monitoring appropriate peer-to-peer communication. Please see also the Distant Learning Plan and Online safety policy for further information on this.



Mental health

Negative experiences and distressing life events, such as the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of children and their parents. A child's behaviour may change during their period of home learning. This can include for example being fearful or withdrawn; aggressive or oppositional or excessive clinginess. Staff will monitor this closely and will support the child and parent either through existing channels for a child in school or alternatively over the phone or through the school's online platform, Microsoft Teams, for children not attending school or from specialist staff and support services.

- Staff will continue to use their best endeavours to identify any changes in a child's mental health whether the child is at school or at home
- Where staff are concerned about a child's mental health, they will report their concerns to the DSL or DDSL.

A useful document for help and support is: [Guidance for parents and carers on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic updated 21 April 2020](#)

Staffing

Lyndhurst school will use the current staff team for regulated activities with the children both in school and for those who remain at home. Where a member of staff is unable to attend work, there will be 'bank' staff available from the existing work force to provide regulated activities for the children. All staff are to be provided with continued updated safeguarding information. This ensures that all staff working with the children have received current and updated safeguarding training and information.