



COVID-19 Addendum

June 2020

Wider School Opening Procedures

Arrangements for Safeguarding and
Child Protection at
Veryan CofE Primary School

Context

This addendum applies during the period of the phased return of pupils, following school closure due to COVID-19. It reflects updated advice from our local safeguarding partners, the OSCP, and any relevant local authority guidance from Cornwall Council.

It sets out changes to our normal child protection policy in light of the Department for Education's (DfE) guidance [Coronavirus: safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers](#), and should be read in conjunction with that document.

Unless covered in this addendum, our school's normal child protection policy continues to apply.

The Department for Education's definition of 'vulnerable children' includes those who are assessed as being in need, including children:

- With a child protection plan
- With a child in need plan
- Looked after by the local authority
- Have an education, health and care (EHC) plan

This now includes pupils who have been assessed as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or LAs. For example, those who are:

- On the edge of receiving support from children's social care services
- Adopted
- At risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
- Living in temporary accommodation
- Young carers
- Considered vulnerable at the provider and LA's discretion

Version Control & Dissemination

This is version 1 of the school re-opening addendum. It will be reviewed regularly and updated in line with the Department for Education's advice and guidance. It is available on the school website and has been shared with all staff.

Safeguarding priorities

During these challenging times, the safeguarding of all children in school, and those at home, continues to be our priority. The following fundamental safeguarding principles remain the same:

- the best interests of children continue to come first
- if anyone in our school has a safeguarding concern, they will act immediately
- a designated safeguarding lead (DSL) or deputy DSL will always be available

- no unsuitable people will be allowed to gain access to children
- children should continue to be protected when they are online.

Current School Position

Veryan have offered places to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils as well as key worker and vulnerable children.
Year 1 and 6 have taken up some of the places and the remaining children are vulnerable or children of keyworkers.

The maximum number of children currently attending is 9 (on Mondays and Tuesdays) the minimum number is 3 (Wednesday-Friday)

We have 2 bubbles in operation.

Bubble 1:

Kiberick bubble has 2 members of staff and currently 3 Year 6 children on a full time basis.

Bubble 2:

Carne class bubble has 2 members of staff and currently have approximately 6 children on Monday and Tuesdays.

We have 2 members of staff working shifts for extra cleaning throughout the school. In addition, we have 2 office bubbles for the school secretary/non-teaching teacher and Head of School.

Key Contacts

Role	Name	Contact Details
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Caroline Jarrett	Veryan.head@celticcross.education
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)	Emeline Goodall	Emeline.goodall@celticcross.education
Head of School	Caroline Jarrett	Veryan.head@celticcross.education
Chair of School Monitoring Council	Andrew Nicholson	Andrew.nicholson@celticcross.education
Chair of Directors	Peter Wootton	Peter.wootton@celticcross.education
Safeguarding Trustee	Mark Jewels	Mark.jewels@celticcross.education

Reporting a concern

Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the CCE Safeguarding Policy; this includes recording incidents and disclosures on MyConcern. In the unlikely event that a member of staff cannot access their MyConcern account, the concern should be shared with the duty DSL/DDSL immediately. Staff are reminded of the need to report all concerns, without delay, for children attending school and for pupils at home. Where staff are concerned about an adult working with children in school, they should raise their concern via the whistleblowing policy.

DSL & DDSL Arrangements

A trained DSL or DDSL will be in attendance at school during school opening hours; details of those individuals can be found in the table above. In the event that a DSL or DDSL experiences symptoms of the Covid 19 virus, or is absent from school for other reasons, arrangements should be made to contact the staff member remotely. If remote contact is not an option, staff should contact Tamsin.parry@celticcross.education, 01208 590150. Where the safeguarding team are absent, a senior member of staff will take the responsibility for co-ordinating responses to safeguarding. Staff will be informed of any changes to arrangements and necessary contact details will be shared.

Attendance Monitoring

We will register children attending school using Pupil Asset and will continue to submit the DfE daily attendance form and the Local Authority spreadsheet.

Where any child we expect to attend school doesn't arrive, or stops attending, we will:

- Ask the school secretary, in the first instance, to follow up on their absence with parents or carers by phone. This may include DSL/DDSL involvement in phoning secondary contacts.
- Staff will continue to follow normal absence reporting procedures, completing a home doorstep visit to check on the welfare of the pupil and family, ensuring they apply social distancing measures.
- Contact with social workers will be made a priority for vulnerable pupils who are not in attendance.
- A referral to the Multi Agency Referral Unit (MARU) will be made if pupils are thought to be in immediate danger.

Contact with Vulnerable Pupils & Families

Risk assessments are active for pupils who are identified as vulnerable, but are not attending school. Reasons for this may include:

- pupils are not attending school because, for example, the school, parent/carer and social worker have decided, together, that this wouldn't be in the child's best interests or
- The family are shielding or self-isolating.

Each child has an individual assessment which sets out:

- How often the school will make contact.
- Which staff member(s) will make contact.
- How staff will make contact.
- What support has been offered to the family and how/why this has been increased or retracted.

All contact made is recorded on My Concern.

Risk assessments, in some instances, have been agreed with children's social care.

If we can't make contact with the family, we will urgently inform the social worker and may conduct a home doorstep visit.

Peer on Peer Abuse

Where our school receives a report of peer on peer abuse, we 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 pupil, parents/carers and any multiagency partner required to ensure the safety and security of that individual. Concerns and actions must be reported and recorded immediately on My Concern/CPOMS and appropriate action must be taken for pupils attending school, or for those at home.

Safeguarding all children

We are aware that this difficult time has potential to put all children at greater risk.

Staff and volunteers will continue to be alert to any signs of abuse, or effects on pupils' mental health that are also safeguarding concerns, and will act on them immediately.

Pupils returning to school

For children returning to school, our safeguarding and pastoral support team will do all that is reasonably possible to uncover any changes in children's welfare, health and wellbeing. Staff are aware that a greater number of disclosures are likely and additional time will be required to support individuals.

Pupils at home

Contact arrangements will remain for pupils who are not yet returning to school. Staff will try to speak directly to children and will be aware of signs like: lack of engagement in remote learning set, limited or no contact from other children or extended family and pupils seeming withdrawn or anxious.

Online safety for pupils in school

CCE will continue to provide a safe environment for pupils, including online. The online filtering system remains active in school and appropriate staff supervision will be in place for pupils accessing the internet.

Online Safety Away From Schools

Staff who interact with children will continue to be alert to the signs that a child may be at risk. Any such concerns should be dealt with using our child protection

policy and, where appropriate, we will refer to relevant agencies. Staff facilitating home learning will continue to ensure that any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements.

Online Safety Advice and Guidance

Staff have engaged in e- safety training via FLICK and regular online safety initiatives continue to be shared via the weekly news bulletin.

The IT Learning Co-ordinator continues to provide appropriate e-safety tasks for pupils to engage with as part of home learning. When staff contact carers, they will continue to speak to children, wherever possible, to check on their wellbeing.

Regular communication continues via the school newsletter, emphasising the measures carers should take to protect their child online.

Remote Learning

All communication with pupils, parents/carers will take place using CCE approved communication channels, e.g. ClassDojo.

Staff and learners will engage with remote teaching and learning in line with existing behaviour principles, as set out in the school's behaviour policy, the staff code of conduct and relevant IT acceptable use policies and the digital safeguarding policy.

When delivering remote learning, staff will:

- Only use online tools that have been agreed and evaluated by the school's leaders.
- Pre-recorded content will be shared with pupils; 'live' streaming is not condoned, as set out in the acceptable use policy. Recordings shared with pupils will be undertaken in a professional manner, and in a suitable environment.
- Exceptional circumstances may exist for 'live' meetings with individual children; for example, a child who receives Trauma Informed School support. In such cases, a personalised risk assessment, parental consent and Head of School consent must be gained and a clear outline of the session's aims should be agreed with all parties. The date, time and length of each session should be recorded on My Concern, as well as any disclosures or concerns regarding the child's safety.

Mental Health:

Children returning to school

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

School strategies to support mental health include:

. Mental health and wellbeing of staff as a high priority to enable them to be emotionally available adults.

- Time given to talk about concerns & feelings with adults in their bubbles.
- Sensory breaks throughout the day.
- Daily PSHE sessions with a general focus at school of wellbeing.
- Smaller groups, which enable more time with trusted adults.
- Increased time outdoors doing PE and forest school.
- Link with children still at home via dojo and website.
- Welfare calls home ongoing.
- Close contact between parents and teachers. Face to face visits and phone calls arranged as needed.
- Home learning, direct contact with teachers.

.Staff have undergone refreshment training prior to returning to school for Trauma in Schools.

12.2 Children at home

Where possible, we will continue to offer our current support for pupil mental health for all pupils. We will also signpost all pupils, parents/carers and staff to other resources to support positive mental health at this time.

When setting expectations for pupils' learning remotely, and for those not attending school, teachers will bear in mind the potential impact of the current situation on the mental health of the child and the adult.

Safeguarding Induction and Training

Changes to any of our procedures and local arrangements will be explicitly communicated with staff and volunteers. New staff and volunteers will continue to receive:

- A safeguarding induction
- A copy of our children protection policy and any addendums
- Keeping Children Safe in Education- at least part 1

DSL training

DSL/DDSL training has been postponed during this period. The DSL and Deputy will continue to be classed as trained at level 3, despite the cancellation. The safeguarding team will do what they reasonably can to keep up to date with safeguarding developments, including: keeping up to date with government guidance, local CAPH updates, delivering safeguarding updates to all staff as part of a weekly staff meeting, reviewing practices in line with safeguarding partner newsletters, etc.

Safer Recruitment

It remains essential that people who are unsuitable are not allowed to enter the children's workforce or gain access to children

Recruitment will continue to follow the relevant safer recruitment practices, as outlined in KCSIE 2019 alongside Coronavirus (COVID-19): safeguarding schools, colleges and other providers, which says - in response to COVID-19, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) has made changes to its guidance on standard and enhanced DBS ID checking to minimise the need for face-to-face contact.

A detailed summary of CCE's revised recruitment processes can be found in the safer recruitment policy.

Transitions to new settings

With pupils transitioning to secondary schools and new pupils arriving in the EYFS, we will do what is reasonably possible to provide the receiving institution with any relevant welfare and child protection information. This will be especially important for the pupils we deem as vulnerable, those with SEN and those who are supported for any other pastoral needs. The receiving school will be made aware of the reason each child is vulnerable and any arrangements in place to support them will be shared. EHC plans, child in need plans, child protection plans or, for looked-after children, their personal education plan and social worker details (and, for looked-after children, who the responsible virtual school head is) will be handed over before the pupil transitions. Child protection records will be transferred electronically via My Concern, or alternative arrangements will be made to share files confidentially, and in accordance with GDPR guidelines.

Monitoring arrangements

This addendum will be regularly reviewed as guidance from the OSCP, the LA or the DfE is updated.