



## **Addendum to the Farrington Academy Child Protection Policy due to the circumstances of COVID-19**

Due to the current unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 virus it is necessary that all schools are prepared and have appropriate arrangements in place in relation to the management of any safeguarding or child protection concerns both on and off site during this time. Therefore, we have produced this cover note/addendum to our existing school's Child Protection Policy Template to ensure all staff, Governors and Parents understand our protocols for managing child protection concerns during this time.

### Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies

On Site: While our school site remains open for vulnerable children and children of key workers, the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies are;

Claire McDermott- Designated Safeguarding Lead,

Susan Matthews- Designated Safeguarding Deputy,

Joanna Forster- Designated Safeguarding Deputy,

Nathan Tye- Designated Safeguarding Deputy,

and continue to be our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies due to their level of training and skill. However due to these unprecedented circumstances they may not physically be on our school site every day. In this case the following named individuals will be physically on site each day/week and will liaise directly with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies if any incidents of a child protection nature occur. Some named staff are from Plains Farm Academy, who are part of our Multi Academy Trust. Some of their children are accessing key worker child care places on our site.

Week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> March- Claire McDermott

Week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> March- Susan Matthews

Week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> April- Joanna Forster

Week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> April- Caroline Orchard (Plains Farm)

Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> April- Caroline Orchard (Plains Farm)

Week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> April- Nathan Tye.

Should our school site be entirely closed then we will update our website and Child Protection Policy with our arrangements.

### Arrangements for Contact with Vulnerable Children

Where our school remains open, the Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies are fully aware of their vulnerable children and those they are expecting into school each day, should that child not arrive then the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy will make contact with the parent or carer immediately and if no response contact front door services immediately.

Arrangements have been made by the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies to continue to contact vulnerable children and their families if the school is closed, or these children are not on site. The frequency of these calls are dependent on individual circumstances and recorded within a weekly log.

All parents, carers, social workers and the Virtual School have been made aware of our arrangements.

All vulnerable children have been offered a child care place.

If there are any issues raised during this time regarding their care, safety or ability to be contacted then the Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy will follow their local safeguarding procedures and contact their local front door services immediately (as per our Child Protection Policy).

### Availability and contact arrangements for families and professionals who wish to make contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies

During these unprecedented circumstances the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies will be available to be contacted by children, families and other services and agencies to ensure the safety and well-being of all our vulnerable children. They can be contacted via the school telephone number in the first instance and whether they are on or off site they will gain contact with any family or professional as soon as possible.

Contact with the Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies should be within the hours of the school day 9am-3.30pm ONLY, including during the Easter holidays where school will remain open for key worker child care placements. Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies cannot be responsible for not receiving calls and messages outside of these times. In the event that children or families need support immediately please contact our front door services immediately (as per the information within the Child Protection Policy) or contact the Police.

### Response to safeguarding or child protection concerns

As always our school's duty of care is to keep children safe and while the arrangements of the physical care of children and physical presence of our Designated Safeguarding Leads/Deputies may be different during this time the school's response remains the same and follows the guidelines as set out in our school's Child Protection Policy.

Issued 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Revised 28<sup>th</sup> March in light of

DFE issued interim coronavirus ( covid -19 ): safeguarding in schools colleges and other providers late on Friday.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers>