

## **Appendix to Child Protection policy – 31/03/2020**

### **Safeguarding during school closure (COVID-19 pandemic)**

Keeping Children Safe In Education document remains the statutory guidance.

#### Key principles

- The best interests of the children must always come first.
- Any safeguarding concern, whether regarding a child in school or at home should be acted upon immediately using My Concern or directly to MASH if there is a risk of immediate harm.  
*You can ring the Multi Agency Support Hub (MASH) on 01234 718700 (office hours) or 0300 300 8123 (out of hours). In an emergency, phone the police on 999. Email a completed form to [mash@bedford.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:mash@bedford.gcsx.gov.uk)*
- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – Helen or Deputy DSL (Louise/Vicki) will be on call if not in school.
- Any member of staff working in school is safeguarding trained and has DBS clearance. This includes cleaning staff.
- Visitors should not be admitted during this period unless in an emergency. If this is the case, normal visitor protocols should be observed.
- Any concern about a member of staff who may pose a safeguarding risk should be addressed in the usual way. Speak to a DSL or contact the Local Authority Designated Officer. *Bedford Borough - Call 01234 276693 or email [lado@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:lado@bedford.gov.uk)*

#### Contact with children and families

- Children and families deemed most vulnerable will be contacted regularly by a member of school staff.
- All contact will be with the knowledge of a Senior Leader and will be recorded.
- If personal phones are used, numbers will be blocked.

#### E-safety

- If working from home, pupil data will only be worked on using secure web based programmes or documents eg. target tracker or google drive.
- Additional e-safety activities and guidance for pupils working from home will be made available to parents via ParentMail and the website.