



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Covid 19: Addendum to the ESCC Model Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy for Schools, Colleges & Settings.

Although St Mary's Catholic Primary School is operating with a partial closure the principles and processes of the existing child protection and safeguarding policy remain in place.

Equally the principles and processes outlined in [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) remain in place and must be adhered to.

To support practice at this time staff should be familiar with the additional DfE guidance: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers](#).

Staff are advised that guidance from the government is fluid, so day to day practice should also be informed by any updates to existing guidance or emerging guidance. Staff will be advised of updates as necessary.

The existing channels for raising concerns about children, or adults in the workforce, remain operational and as outlined in the main policy i.e. SPOA, via 01323 464222 or the LADO via the [online referral](#).

Existing processes for safer recruitment, as outlined in KCSiE, will be adhered to with the exception of [temporary changes to identity checking guidelines](#) from the DBS.

For any staff working at St Mary's Catholic Primary School who have been redeployed from other establishments: written confirmation will be sought from the Headteacher of the other school that all safer recruitment checks have been completed. (Additional guidance on this is available at [czone here](#))

Staff deployed from other establishments to St Mary's Catholic Primary School will be provided information about the safeguarding arrangements, emergency evacuation procedures and relevant information about specific children who they may be working with.

The DSL arrangements for St Mary's Catholic Primary School during this period of operation remain the same as they would do during normal school opening. The DSLs are Liz Hills (Acting Headteacher), Judith Botterman (Acting Deputy Headteacher) and Kate White (Teacher). Phone numbers for the DSLs have been provided to all staff working in the school. The Acting Headteacher can be contacted by email at any time: head@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk and the DSL can be contacted by email at any time: dsl@stmarysrc.e-sussex.sch.uk

For children who are not on roll at St Mary's Catholic Primary School, but who are attending here as part of their provision: we will ensure that we receive safeguarding information from their home school, including any individual plans, to ensure that we can make informed decisions about their welfare. Further to this we will agree processes for sharing back any emerging concerns with the original school. This will include a clear protocol for who will speak with families, social workers or SPOA.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School will support ESCC with contact and monitoring of [vulnerable children](#) who are not attending school, and share details with ESCC about levels of contact with families and social workers, as per ESCC guidance [here](#).

In line with existing practice, staff should maintain an attitude of: *it could happen here*, and in that respect be mindful of **all** forms of possible abuse or specific safeguarding issues for **all** children.

Staff should be *additionally* mindful and vigilant around online abuse, peer on peer abuse and mental health, within the context of children spending more time online and being anxious about the current situation.

Equally staff should be *additionally* mindful and vigilant around possible indicators of domestic violence or abuse within a context of families being confined with additional stresses and anxieties.

If staff have any concerns with any child (whether they are attending or not) these should be raised immediately with the DSL or designated member of SLT.