



# ROTHESAY NURSERY SCHOOL

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## SAFEGUARDING POLICY

### COVID-19 ADDENDUM

**Rothesay Children ready to face the World**

April 2020

## **1. Context**

From 20th March 2020, 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.

Rothesay Nursery School has been asked to provide care for a limited number of children: children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

This addendum does not replace the school's Safeguarding policy and should be read in conjunction with the main policy.

## **2. Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE 2019)**

At Rothesay Nursery school the best interests of the children continue to be our main priority. If staff have any concerns about a child they should act immediately and contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or the Deputy, one of whom will be on school site at all times when the school is open.

People who are unsuitable to work with children are not allowed to enter the children's workforce or gain access to children. Rothesay Nursery school will continue to follow the relevant safer recruitment processes taking into account the relevant sections in part 3 of KCSIE.

The nursery will continue to provide a safe environment, including online. This includes the use of an online filtering system.

Where children are using computers in school, appropriate supervision will be in place.

## **3. Child Protection Policy**

The DSL and Deputy will continue to review the school policy to ensure it is in line with current government guidance and advice.

The nursery is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students. Where there is a concern for the wellbeing of a child who is not able to attend nursery because they do not meet the definition of vulnerable or is on the edge of social care support a plan will be put place to support that child and family.

## **4. Designated Safeguarding Lead's**

Where possible a trained DSL (or deputy) will be on the school site. Where this is not possible, a trained DSL (or deputy) will be available to be contacted via phone. Where a trained DSL is not on site a member of the senior leadership team (SLT) will be responsible for coordinating safeguarding on site, which will include accessing child protection files.

The DSL and SLT will continue to engage with other DSL's, social workers, and attend all multi-agency meetings, which can be done remotely.

## **5. Vulnerable Children**

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those with an 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.

There is an expectation that all children identified as vulnerable will access school. However, it may be that those children with an EHC plan can safely remain at home. In this case a home IP will be shared with parents with weekly telephone contact from the SENCO

## **6. Attendance**

The nursery and social workers will agree with parents/carers whether children in need should be attending school. The school will follow up on any pupil that they were expecting to attend, who does not. All children with an allocated social worker, will be contacted by a member of the safeguarding team. The DSL will update social workers of any changes.

School registers do not need to be completed, however a daily attendance record (no children's names) will be uploaded to the DfE portal to report how many children of critical workers and vulnerable children attended nursery each day.

## **7. Staff Training and Induction**

For the period COVID-19 measures are in place, a DSL (or deputy) who has been trained will continue to be classed as a trained DSL (or deputy).

All existing school staff have had safeguarding training and have read part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019). The DSL should communicate with staff any new local arrangements, so they know what to do if they are worried about a child.

Where staff from other settings work are required in our nursery, they will need to bring in their 'child protection policy' to ensure they have an adequate level of safeguarding induction.

## **8. Children moving schools**

The nursery will continue to work with and support children's social workers and the local authority Virtual School head (VSH) for looked-after and previously looked-after children.

The nursery will ask to see a copy of a child's EHC Plan if they are attending from another setting.

The DSL or deputy will ask for the name of a child's social worker so they have access to their plan. Ideally, this will be sent before the child attends.

The nursery will have appropriate regard to data protection and GDPR, when sharing information for the purposes of keeping children safe.

## **9. Safer Recruitment and Movement of Staff**

If staff from other settings are required to work at Rothesay, the nursery will seek assurances from their current employer that all appropriate safer recruitment checks have been carried out. The single central record will be kept up to date.

There will be no new recruitment of staff during the Covid-19 response.

## **10. Mental Health**

The nursery will have regard for how the current situation is impacting on staff, children and parents wellbeing and offer any support it can.

## **11. On-line Safety**

The nursery will ensure that all internet filtering tools are in place to safeguard staff and children whilst they are on-line.

The nursery's IT technician will provide remote assistance for all software issues. If there are hardware problems he will be expected to come onto school if the problem cannot be fixed remotely.

The nursery will do all it practically can to ensure children are safe when on-line outside of school,

The nursery will share on-line resources and learning tools from trusted sources only and ensure these comply with data protection, privacy and GDPR.

On-line support for parents:

[Internet Matters](#)

[London Grid for Learning](#)

[Net-aware \(NSPCC\)](#)

[Parent Info](#)

[Thinkuknow \(NCA\)](#)

[UK Safer Internet Centre](#)