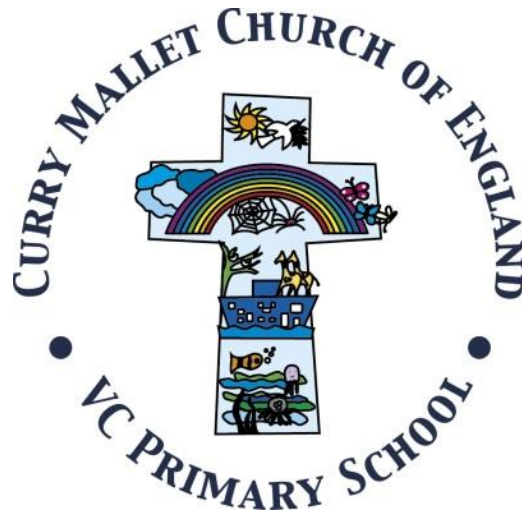


Annex 1



COVID-19 school closure arrangements for Safeguarding and Child Protection at Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School

School Name: Curry Mallet Church of England VC School and Pre-School

Date: 17/04/2020

Date shared with staff: 20/04/2020

Review Date: 01/05/2020

Review Date: 01/06/2020

Next Review: 01/07/2020

1. Context

From 23rd 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 - who absolutely need to attend.

Schools and all childcare providers were 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 amendment (Annex 1) has been made in order to review and revise the child protection policy and keep it under review as circumstances continue to evolve.

This amendment takes into account advice issued by DoFE

<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>

This amendment of the Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School Safeguarding, and Child Protection policy contains details of our individual safeguarding arrangements in the following areas:

1. Context.....	2
3. Vulnerable children.....	3
4. Attendance monitoring.....	4
5. Designated Safeguarding Lead	5
6. Reporting a concern.....	6
7. Safeguarding Training and induction	6
8. Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff.....	7
9. Online safety in schools and colleges.....	8
10. Children and online safety away from school and college.....	8
11. Supporting children not in school	10
12. Supporting children in school	11
13. Peer on Peer Abuse.....	11

Key contacts

Role	Name	Contact number	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead / Headteacher	Nicola Stoddart	01823 480421	currymallet@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Tim Richards	01823 480421	currymallet@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Pre-School Safeguarding Lead	Mandi Trout	01823 480421	currymallet@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Safeguarding Governor	Crissie Osbourne	01823 480421	cosborne1@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Chair of Governors	Simon Collins	01823 480421	scollins@educ.somerset.gov.uk
LADO	Anthony Goble	01823 359029	agoble@somerset.gov.uk

Vulnerable children

Vulnerable children include those who have a social worker and those children and young people up to the age of 25 with 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. A child may also be deemed to be vulnerable if they have been assessed as being in need or otherwise meet the definition in section 17 of the Children Act 1989.

Those with an EHC plan will be risk-assessed in consultation with the Local Authority and parents, to decide whether they need to continue to be offered a school or college place in order to meet their needs, or whether they can safely have their needs met at home. This could include, if necessary, carers, therapists or clinicians visiting the home to provide any essential services. Many children and young people with EHC plans can safely remain at home.

Eligibility for free school meals in and of itself should not be the determining factor in assessing vulnerability.

Senior leaders, especially the Designated Safeguarding Lead (and deputy) know who our most vulnerable children are. They have the flexibility to offer a place to those on the edge of receiving children's social care support.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will continue to work with and support children's social workers to help protect vulnerable children. This includes working with and supporting children's social workers and the local authority virtual school head (VSH) for looked-after and previously looked-after children. The Designated Teacher for Children looked after (Nicola Stoddart) will collaborate with other professionals during this period. Should DT be unable this role will be delegated to Tim Richards.

There is an expectation that vulnerable children who have a social worker will attend an education setting, so long as they do not have underlying health conditions that put them at risk. In circumstances where a parent does not want to bring their child to an education setting, and their child is considered vulnerable, the social worker and Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will explore the reasons for this directly with the parent.

Where parents are concerned about the risk of the child contracting COVID19, Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School or the social worker will talk through these anxieties with the parent/carer following the advice set out by Public Health England.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will encourage our vulnerable children and young people to attend a school, including remotely if needed.

Attendance monitoring

Local authorities and education settings do not need to complete their usual day-to-day attendance processes to follow up on non-attendance.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School and social workers will agree with parents/ carers children in need should be attending school – Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will then follow up on any pupil that they were expecting to attend, who does not. Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will also follow up with any parent or carer who has arranged care for their child(ren) and the child(ren) subsequently do not attend.

To support the above, Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will, when communicating with parents/carers and carers, confirm emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available.

In all circumstances where a vulnerable child does not take up their place at school, or discontinues, Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will notify their social worker.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and a Deputy DSL.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Nicola Stoddart.

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Tim Richards.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Pre-School is Mandi Trout.

A trained DSL (or deputy) will always be available during the school day. If they are not available on site, they will be available to be contacted via phone - for example when working from home.

Where a trained DSL (or deputy) is not on site, in addition to the above, the lead teacher will assume responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site.

This might include updating and managing access to child protection online management system, Myconcern and liaising with the offsite DSL (or deputy) and as required liaising with children's social workers where they require access to children in need and/or to carry out statutory assessments at the school or college.

It is important that all Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School staff and volunteers have access to a trained DSL (or deputy). On each day staff on site will be made aware of that person is and how to speak to them.

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

Reporting a concern

All staff must continue to use usual reporting procedures. Support staff to complete a yellow concern form and report to DSL or lead teacher on site. Lead teacher on site at any time, must upload any concern onto MyConcern and have a verbal conversation with the DSL. If the DSL is not on site a telephone call is to be made and a verbal conversation to be held.

If a DSL is not on site, they can be and must be available to be contacted via phone.

If a DSL is not on site, the lead teacher has responsibility for ensuring on-site safeguarding. To include liaising with off-site DSL.

Staff are reminded of the need to report any concern immediately and without delay.

Where staff are concerned about an adult working with children in the school, they should use a yellow form to report the concern to the headteacher. If there is a requirement to make a notification to the headteacher whilst away from school, this should be done verbally by a telephone call and followed up with an email to the headteacher.

Concerns around the Headteacher should be directed to the Chair of Governors: Simon Collins.

Safeguarding Training and induction

DSL training is very unlikely to take place whilst there remains a risk of the COVID 19 virus.

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) even if they miss their refresher training.

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 new staff are recruited, or new volunteers enter Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School, they will continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction.

If staff are deployed from another education or children's workforce setting to our school, we will take into account the DfE supplementary guidance on safeguarding

children during the COVID-19 pandemic and will accept portability as long as the current employer confirms in writing that: -

- the individual has been subject to an enhanced DBS and children's barred list check
- there are no known concerns about the individual's suitability to work with children
- there is no ongoing disciplinary investigation relating to that individual

Upon arrival, they will be given a copy of the receiving setting's child protection policy, confirmation of local processes and confirmation of DSL arrangements.

Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff

It remains essential that people who are unsuitable are not allowed to enter the children's workforce or gain access to children. When recruiting new staff, Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will continue to follow the relevant safer recruitment processes for their setting, including, as appropriate, relevant sections in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019) (KCSIE).

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.

Where Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School are utilising volunteers, we will continue to follow the checking and risk assessment process as set out in paragraphs 167 to 172 of KCSIE. Under no circumstances will a volunteer who has not been checked be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will continue to follow the legal duty to refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed or poses a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult. Full details can be found at paragraph 163 of KCSIE.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will continue to consider and make referrals to the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) as per paragraph 166 of KCSIE and the TRA's 'Teacher misconduct advice for making a referral.

During the COVID-19 period all referrals should be made by emailing

Misconduct.Teacher@education.gov.uk

Whilst acknowledging the challenge of the current National emergency, it is essential from a safeguarding perspective that any school is aware, on any given day, which staff/volunteers will be in the school or college, and that appropriate checks have been carried out, especially for anyone engaging in regulated activity. As such, Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will continue to keep the single central record (SCR) up to date as outlined in paragraphs 148 to 156 in KCSIE.

Online safety in schools and colleges

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will continue to provide a safe environment, including online. This includes the use of an online filtering system.

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

Children and online safety away from school and college

On-line safety information will be regularly shared with children and families.

On-line safety reminders will be included in home-learning correspondence.

Any concerns to be reported to DSL using MyConcern and verbal conversation.

It is important that all staff who interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns should be dealt with as per the Child Protection Policy and where appropriate referrals should still be made to children's social care and as required, the police.

Online teaching should follow the same principles as set out in the code of conduct.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will ensure any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements.

Below are some things to consider when delivering virtual lessons, especially where webcams are involved:

- No 1:1s, groups only
- Staff and children must wear suitable clothing, as should anyone else in the household.
- Any computers used should be in appropriate areas, for example, not in bedrooms; and the background should be blurred.
- Any live class should be recorded so that if any issues were to arise, the video can be reviewed.
- Live classes should be kept to a reasonable length of time, or the streaming may prevent the family 'getting on' with their day.
- Language must be professional and appropriate, including any family members in the background.
- Staff must only use platforms provided by Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School to communicate with pupils (Google Classroom)
- Staff should record, the length, time, date and attendance of any sessions held.

Online learning

Curry Mallet School has ensured the use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements. We are using Google Classroom in line with County guidance and advice from our DPO.

An essential part of the online planning process will be ensuring children who are being asked to work online have very clear reporting routes in place so they can raise any concerns whilst online. As well as reporting routes back to the school or college this should also signpost children to age appropriate practical support from the likes of:

- [Childline](#) - for support
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - to report and remove harmful online content
- [CEOP](#) - for advice on making a report about online abuse

Regular contact with parents and carers. Those communications should be used to reinforce the importance of children being safe online. It will be especially important for parents and carers to be aware of what their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access and be clear who from the school or college (if anyone) their child is going to be interacting with online.

Parents and carers may choose to supplement the school or college online offer with support from online companies and in some cases individual tutors. In their communications with parents and carers, schools and colleges should emphasise the importance of securing online support from a reputable organisation/individual who can provide evidence that they are safe and can be trusted to have access to children. Support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online includes:

- [Internet matters](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [London Grid for Learning](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [Net-aware](#) - for support for parents and carers from the NSPCC
- [Parent info](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [Thinkuknow](#) - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - advice for parents and carers

This information has been shared as advised in newsletter and email correspondences.

Supporting children not in school

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its Children and Young people.

Where the DSL has identified a child to be on the edge of social care support, or who would normally receive pastoral-type support in school, they should ensure that a robust communication plan is in place for that child or young person.

A record of contact should be made.

The communication plans can include; email contact, phone contact. Other individualised contact methods should be considered and recorded.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School and its DSL will work closely with all stakeholders to maximise the effectiveness of any communication plan.

This plan must be reviewed regularly (at least once a fortnight) and where concerns arise, the DSL will consider any referrals as appropriate.

The school will share safeguarding messages on its website and via email and text messaging.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School recognises that school is a protective factor for children and young people, and the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents/carers. Teachers at Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School need to be aware of this in setting expectations of pupils' work where they are at home.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will ensure that where we care for children of critical workers and vulnerable children on site, we ensure appropriate support is in place for them. This will be bespoke to each child and recorded on MyConcern as necessary.

Teachers will make contact with other pupils via Google Classroom (once set up complete) or via school telephone as a 'check in' with children of concern who do not meet the vulnerable criteria

Supporting children in school

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will continue to be a safe space for all children to attend and flourish. The Headteacher will ensure that appropriate staff are on site and staff to pupil ratio numbers are appropriate, to maximise safety.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will refer to the Government guidance for education and childcare settings on how to implement social distancing and continue to follow the advice from Public Health England on handwashing and other measures to limit the risk of spread of COVID19.

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School will ensure that where we care for children of critical workers and vulnerable children on site, we ensure appropriate support is in place for them. This will be bespoke to each child and recorded on MyConcern as necessary.

Where Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School has concerns about the impact of staff absence – such as our Designated Safeguarding Lead or first aiders – leaders will discuss with CLP and hub lead and consider stepping up to Plan B. (Plan B is the CLP proposed response to caring for children of Key Workers at an alternative school setting).

Peer on Peer Abuse

Curry Mallet Church of England VC Primary School and Pre-School recognises that during the closure a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims.

Where a school receives a report of peer on peer abuse, they 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 young person, parents/carers and any multiagency partner required to ensure the safety and security of that young person.

Concerns and actions must be recorded on MyConcern and appropriate referrals made.

Mental Health

Whilst providing for children of critical workers and vulnerable children on site, we must ensure appropriate support is in place for them.

Guidance on mental health and behaviour in schools sets out how mental health issues can bring about changes in a young person's behaviour or emotional state which can be displayed in a range of different ways, and that can be an indication of an underlying problem. Support for pupils and students in the current circumstances can include existing provision in the school (although this may be delivered in different ways, for example over the phone from our ELSA) or from specialist staff or support services. You can read the guidance on [mental health and behaviour in schools](#).

It is important that all staff and volunteers are aware of the amendment to the policy and are kept up to date as it is revised.

This revised version will be emailed to all staff and governors; displayed on the Safeguarding noticeboard; published on the School Website and a hyperlink added to newsletters to parents.