

Roaches Farm Schools Network

Covid-19 Addendum - March 2020

The following is interim guidance and will be updated regularly. Currently all schools in the RFSN remain open and fully operational, as all our pupils are vulnerable. All are following the latest advice regarding social distancing and as ever, 'safeguarding is at the crux of everything we do' Ofsted Inspector July 2018.

To this end :

- with regard to safeguarding, the best interests of children must always continue to come first
 - if anyone in the RFSN has a safeguarding concern about any child they should continue to act and act immediately
 - a DSL or deputy WILL ALWAYS be available on all of our sites
 - our children will remain safe online with high levels of vigilance from staff
- Updated advice from Safeguarding Partners is always shared amongst all staff teams and we have a Care Today/Parallel Parents briefing almost daily regarding latest Government Advice on Covid-19. All senior staff are signed up to the Gov.Uk service for updates. Staff teams have a Covid-19 folder on SMS with all updates put into it. All staff asked to access this folder daily and familiarise themselves with updates, as these are constantly changing.
 - All residential pupils continue to attend school as normal. As per guidelines, healthy hands and catch it, bin it, kill it principles are rigorously enforced. For pupils of The Roaches School who are self-isolating, a robust monitoring and teaching package has been put into place. There are face to face (2 metre apart) welfare calls twice weekly, where a teacher/TA visits the child and speaks to them and their parent to discuss physical and mental well-being. All visits are logged and any concerns arising from these are instantly flagged up with the DSL. In between those visits there is a Food Drop visit where we provide the family with essentials required to sustain the child for that week.

Additionally to this, all Day pupils self-isolating at home have been issued with a Google Chrome book and teaching staff use Google Classroom to remotely teach them lessons daily in English, Maths, Science, Computer Science and Food Technology. These chrome books have been set using our online safety mechanism Forticlient to ensure they cannot access websites deemed unsuitable. Content filtering through local permissions is also used to ensure online safety. The RFSN ensures that any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements. Staff are also in constant contact with parents via telephone reminding them of the importance of online safety and our pupils have been issued with details of the following to allow them to report any concern regarding online safety.

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

All pupils have also been provided with Learning Packs, should technology fail.

Mental Wellbeing is supported by all staff with a range of initiatives aimed at understanding Covid-19 by encouraging questions, downplaying social media, calmly giving facts, being role models, encouraging mindfulness, acknowledging it is normal to be concerned,

promoting awareness of the body's immune system and reminding pupils to follow guidelines re minimising infection and spreading germs. A Mindfulness Writing Competition has been made available too.

- should our staff have any concerns about the well-being of any of our children at this time, they follow the safeguarding procedures set out in our Safeguarding Policy. All are aware of this.
- our staff are constantly reminded about the continued importance of acting and acting immediately on any safeguarding concerns.

Our DSL arrangements have not changed - see Safeguarding Policy for details

Whilst every effort is for our DSL to be on site at all times, any of them can be contacted via telephone/video call if that is not the case.

All schools within the RFSN are liaising with social workers and local authority virtual school head teachers (VSH) for looked-after children and are conducting statutory PEP and EHCP review meetings via telephone conference call and/or video conferencing.

- peer on peer abuse – will continue to be managed, as per our Safeguarding Policy adhering to the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE 2021
- Staff, who have concerns about other staff must follow our Safeguarding Policy, which adheres to the principles in part 4 of KCSIE 2021

At the RFSN we continue to provide outstanding education to support our children in these challenging times.

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To be reviewed annually - Reviewed July 2021