

Addendum - January 2021

This guidance is to be read alongside the School Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and the Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 - Statutory Guidance for schools and colleges on safeguarding children and safer recruitment.



**COVID-19 school closure arrangements for
Safeguarding and Child Protection
at
Holy Spirit Primary School**

School Name: Holy Spirit Primary School

Policy owner:

Date:

Date shared with staff:

Date shared with Governors: January 2021

This policy has been remotely approved by Governors on 25/01/21 and is available on the school website

This revised addendum of the Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy contains details of our individual safeguarding arrangements when schools need to close due to a lockdown, to protect all children, whether attending school or remaining at home, from harm, abuse and exploitation. The arrangements are detailed in the following area:

1. Context
2. Vulnerable Children
3. Children open to Early Help
4. Children not currently known to Early Help or Children's Social Care
5. Attendance Monitoring
6. Children Missing Education
7. Designated Safeguarding Leads
8. Reporting a concern
9. Safeguarding Training and Induction
10. Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff
11. Remote Learning
12. Online safety in schools and colleges
13. Supporting Children not in school
14. Supporting Children in School
15. FSM Children
16. First Aid-Impact Staff Absence
17. Children who attend or transfer to another setting
18. Peer on Peer Abuse
19. Radicalisation
20. Domestic Abuse - Coronavirus (COVID-19): support for victims of domestic abuse
21. Mental Health
22. Working in Partnership with Merseyside Police
23. Support from LA/Multi Academy Trust
24. Useful Contacts
25. Review of the Policy
26. Further sources of support

1. Context

From 5th January 2021, parents and carers 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, or vulnerable children. As per previous stages of this on-going pandemic, it is highly likely that new challenges will emerge. However, we must ensure that our robust systems to protect and safeguard children do not waiver and continue to remain a key priority throughout.

Our school's risk assessment will be updated and review on an ongoing basis.

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare>

All staff and volunteers have a legal responsibility to protect and safeguard children and young people, as outlined in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020.

Key contacts

Role	Name	Contact number	Email
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Clare Roberts	0151 525 7497	admin.holyspirit@schools.sefton.gov.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads	Mr Mike O'Brien	0161 525 7497	admin.holyspirit@schools.sefton.gov.uk
Headteacher	Mrs Clare Roberts	0151 525 7497	admin.holyspirit@schools.sefton.gov.uk
Chair of Governors	Father Chris McCoy	0151 525 7497	admin.holyspirit@schools.sefton.gov.uk
Safeguarding Governor	Father Chris McCoy		admin.holyspirit@school.sefton.gov.uk
LA Designated Lead Education Safeguarding	Tracy McKeating	07837863075	Tracy.mckeating@sefton.gov.uk
Service Manager Sefton Children's Social Care	Julie Bucknall	07773096512	Julie.bucknall@sefton.gov.uk
Head VIRTUAL SCHOOL	Mary Palin	07816139316	Mary.palin@sefton.gov.uk
Head of SEND	Christopher Lee	07890387855	Christopher.lee@sefton.gov.uk

2. Provision for children of key workers and those defined by the government as vulnerable.

The school's plans and risk assessments will consider how provision is made for children of key workers and those defined by the government as vulnerable.

The government defines vulnerable children via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision#vulnerable-children-and-young-people>

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.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary 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 leadperson for this will be: Chris Proffitt

Where parents are concerned about the risk of the child contracting COVID19, Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School or the social worker will talk through these anxieties with the parent/carer following the advice set out by Public Health and the Department for Education.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School will encourage our vulnerable children and young people to attend aschool, including remotely if needed.

3. Children currently open to Early Help

If our school have any specific concerns regarding a child open to Early Help in the first instance, they will speak to the early help worker attached to the school. The school may contact Tracy McKeating, LA DSL Education Safeguarding to discuss any concerns who can be contacted on 07837863075 or at tracy.mckeating@sefton.gov.uk Support for Early Help can also be accessed from the Family Wellbeing Centres in Sefton. There are 3 currently operating across North, Central and South Sefton.

North Locality	Talbot Street Family Well Being Centre St Andrew Place PR8 1HR	01704 534975
Central Locality	Netherton Family Well Being Centre Magdalen Square, Bootle L30 5QH	0151 282 1405
South Locality	Marie Clark Family Well Being Centre Linacre Lane Bootle L20 5A	0151 330 5260

4. Children not currently known to Early Help or Children's Social Care.

In the event a school has concerns about a child not currently known to either Early Help or CSC a referral can be made into the MASH in the usual way. If a school/professional has concerns about a child that relate specifically to Covid19, at this time CSC would encourage professionals to ring the MASH for a conversation about the individual case before completing a referral.

5. Attendance monitoring

Attendance Procedure

- Class Teachers will take a register each day of children attending online activities
- This information will then be reported to the DfE and LA in accordance with their guidelines
- If any identified vulnerable children offered a place during the crisis does not attend, then the school should follow up their absence with the parent/carers.
- Our school works with the LA in the operation of the first day response scheme for children who have a social worker. We will complete the required template and submit by 10.30am daily.
- Our school will inform the allocated social worker if the child has not attended or has discontinued to attend. It may be necessary for the school and Children's Social Care to agree a supportive strategy to help either engage or re-engage the family to encourage their child attending school.

If there are capacity issues about having children who are being assessed by Social Care, CP and CIN we will contact the LA Education Safeguarding Lead /Service Manager, Children's Social Care. If there are capacity issues regarding attendance of Looked After Children, we will contact the Virtual Head teacher (this will include the discussion about foster carers who are shielding or anxious).

If the capacity issues relate to children with an Education, Health and Care Plan please contact the school's designated SEND case worker

To support the above, Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School will, when communicating with parents/carers, confirm emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers, preferably one outside of the household where they are available.

Shielding advice is currently in place, therefore all children identified as clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend school.

Attendance Codes

As vulnerable children are still expected to attend school full time, they **should not** be marked as **Code X** if they are not in school (except if they are shielding, self-isolating or quarantining). If the parent of a vulnerable child wishes their child to be absent, the parent should let the school know and the absence recorded as **Code C** (leave of absence authorised by the school) unless another authorised absence.

6. Children Missing Education

If schools are unable to make contact with families and all available avenues have been exhausted (telephone calls, home visits, checks with known sibling schools and emergency contact numbers etc), School should refer to the Local Authority Children Missing Education Coordinator, as per the locally agreed protocols for Children Missing in Education.

7. Designated Safeguarding Lead

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and a Deputy

DSL. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Mrs Clare Roberts

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Mr Mike O'Brien

The optimal scenario is to have a trained DSL (or deputy) available on site. Where this is not the case, a trained DSL (or deputy) will be available to be contacted via phone or online video - for example when working from home.

Where a trained DSL (or deputy) is not on site, in addition to the above, a senior leader will assume responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site. This might include updating and managing access to child protection online management system, CPOMS 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.

If a situation occurs whereby there is no DSL available as a school, we will utilise support from a Designated Lead from another school who would be available by phone or video link.

Of there are concerns we may contact Tracy McKeating Education Safeguarding Lead

It is important that all Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School staff and volunteers have access to a trained DSL(or deputy). On each day, the staff on site will be made aware of who that person is and how to contact them.

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

8. Reporting a concern

Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the School Safeguarding Policy, this includes making a report via CPOMS, which can be done remotely.

In the unlikely event that a member of staff cannot access their CPOMS from home, they should email the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Headteacher and the Trust Safeguarding Manager. This will ensure that the concern is received.

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

Where staff are concerned that an adult working, including supply staff, and those volunteering with children in the school has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed, a child
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against, or related to, a child
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she may pose a risk of harm
- Behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

They should use a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) referral 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 and followed up with an email to the headteacher. The referral to LADO must be made within 24 hours of the allegation being made. The LADO in Sefton is Tracey Holyhead and she can be contacted on 0151 934 3783 Mobile: 07814059604

Email: Tracey.Holyhead@sefton.gov.uk

Concerns around the Headteacher should be directed to the Chair of Governors: Mr Dennis Hardiman.

Staff can also alternatively contact the NSPCC Whistle Blowing helpline tel: 0800 028 0285 or email: help@nspcc.org.uk

9. Safeguarding Training and Induction

DSL training will continue to be delivered on line whilst there remains a threat 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. We will keep our staff updated by accessing information and safeguarding messages from Sefton LSCB website and other sources.

All existing school staff have had safeguarding training and have read part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020). 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 Holy Spirit Primary 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

For movement within the Trust, schools should seek assurance from the Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) HR Manager that the member of staff has received appropriate safeguarding training.

Upon arrival, they will be given a copy of the receiving setting's Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Policy, confirmation of local processes and confirmation of DSL arrangements.

10. 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, the school will continue to follow the Safer Recruitment Policy.

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. During this period, it will be acceptable to consider scanned proof of identity along with a face-to-face video link to validate the photo ID. The original documents must be presented on the first day of attendance on site.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-changes-to-dbs-id-checking-guidelines>

Where volunteers are used, we will continue to follow the checking and risk assessment process as set out in paragraphs 183 to 188 of KCSIE 2020. Under no circumstances will a volunteer, who has not been checked be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity.

We 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 179 of KCSIE 2020.

We will continue to consider and make referrals to the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) as per paragraph 182 of KCSIE 2020 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, and that appropriate checks have been carried out, especially for anyone engaging in regulated activity. As such, we will continue to keep the single central record (SCR) up to date as outlined in paragraphs 164 to 171 in KCSIE 2020.

11. Remote Learning

It is extremely important that the school's internet continues to be monitored regularly and that filtering systems are robust, in order to protect children whilst on-site. Any device loaned by the school, or donated to the school to support remote learning, must be thoroughly checked and reset to the manufacturers setting before being issued to any pupil.

If you become aware of an on line/ e-safety concern, please seek immediate assistance from the school's IT technician/provider or alternatively from the DSL and/or Senior Leader. Senior Leaders should have the contact details for their IT provider, in the event of the usual personnel being unavailable.

For pupils who are accessing remote learning, there needs to be a clear mechanism in place for pupils to report back to the school if there are any concerns. Therefore, if you are setting activities for pupils to complete online then please ensure you include any internal reporting system, plus details of other national organisations where they can seek support (e.g. Childline, CEOP, UK Safer Internet Centre).

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.

Our school will have procedures in place to check that vulnerable children are able to access remote learning, support with access (as far as possible), and regularly check pupils are doing so. Furthermore, our schools will work collaboratively with families, putting in place reasonable adjustments as necessary, so that pupils with SEND can successfully access remote education alongside their peers.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School will ensure any use of online learning tools and systems are in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements.

School will ensure that parents and carers are aware of the importance of children being safe online. This includes emphasising 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.

The following may be of use to parents and carers in ensuring that the children are safe whilst online at home: (add your own if you wish)

- [Internet matters](#) - 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

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

- No 1:1s/tuition sessions, 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.
- The 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 specified by senior managers and approved by our IT network manager / provider to communicate with pupils.
- Staff should record the length, time, date and attendance of any sessions held.
- Staff must follow school guidance when setting up on-line lessons to ensure that appropriate safeguarding settings are in place to prevent unauthorised use and access to on-line lessons.

12. Online safety in schools and colleges

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary 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.

13. Supporting children not in school

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its Children and Young People.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary 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.

Where the DSL has identified a child about whom there have been concerns but not currently open to social care, 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.

Details of this plan must be recorded on CPOMS as should a record of contact/s that have been made.

The communication plans can include; remote contact, phone contact, door-step visits. Other individualised contact methods should be considered and recorded.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary 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.

14. Supporting children in school

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students. Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School will refer to the Government guidance for education and childcare settings on how to implement protective measures, including social distancing: implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings

The school continue to follow the advice from Public Health England on hand washing and other measures to limit the risk of spread of Covid-19.

We recognise that for those children returning to school as vulnerable children or the children of critical workers will be challenging, and staff will support children to adjust to the necessary changes to the school environment and routines.

Supporting pupil wellbeing will be at the forefront of our approach and school staff will seek to provide reassurance to pupils as we manage the transition period. Staff will talk to the children about the changes to the school day in an age appropriate manner, acknowledge and listen to pupil anxieties and support children to understand the altered routines.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School recognises that the current circumstances may adversely affect the mental health of children and their parents. Staff have been made aware to look out for changes in behaviour or in a child's emotional state.

As always, pupil wellbeing is at the heart of our work, and school staff will seek to provide appropriate support for pupils both in school and where required from specialist services.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School recognises that for some children, home may not be a safe space, and there may be children who are relieved to return to school. School staff have been reminded of the need to respond sensitively to pupils' differing experiences.

School staff have been asked to be particularly vigilant for signs and indicators that a child may have experienced/be experiencing abuse or neglect. School staff have been trained about how to handle a disclosure from a child, and understand that any safeguarding concerns, including those that relate to the period of school closure, must be referred immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or deputies) in the usual way.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School will ask parents and carers to ensure that all personal details held by the school, such as emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available. At this time, parents and carers will also be asked to advise the school if there are any changes regarding the child's welfare, health and wellbeing that it would help school to be made aware of.

Where the school is aware of particular circumstances affecting a child or family, such as bereavement, a relationship breakdown, an incident of domestic violence, this will be shared with staff on a need-to-know basis so that children can be best supported.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary 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 CPOMS

Where Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School has concerns about the impact of staff absence – such as our Designated Safeguarding Lead or first aiders – we will discuss them immediately with the LA

To help ensure that the risk of virus spread for both staff and children is as low as possible, we will be:

- telling children, parents, carers or any visitors, such as suppliers, not to visit the education or childcare setting if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)
- ensuring class sizes reflect the numbers of teaching staff available and are kept as small as possible
- asking parents not to come on to the premises other than to drop off or collect their child
- asking only those staff members on the rota to come into school
- ensuring all staff and children wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds frequently, and are encouraged not to touch their face, while using a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and using bins for tissue waste.
- Increasing cleaning of surfaces in classrooms, including desks and handles, and within toilet blocks and changing rooms, adhering to [guidance on cleaning of non-healthcare settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings). This information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

15. FSM -Children

During the period of national lockdown, our school will continue to provide meal options for all pupils who are in school. Food parcels and vouchers are available for those children who are eligible.

16. First Aid -Impact of Staff Absence

All schools must use their best endeavours and ensure that a Paediatric First Aid (PFA) trained member of staff is on-site. If this is not possible, then advice needs to be sought from either LA to determine the best course of action, which may include, schools running with a first aider on-site instead of a paediatric one, for a limited number of days. The schools PFA arrangements will be outlined in individual school's risk assessments, as per DfE Planning Guide for Early Years and Childcare Settings, May 2020.

17. Children who attend or transfer to another setting

As always, where children join our school from other settings, we will seek confirmation from the DSL whether they have a Safeguarding File or SEND/EHCP. This file must be provided securely where possible before the child begins at our school and a call made from our DSL or a deputy to the placing school's DSL to discuss how best to keep the child safe.

Safeguarding information about children placed in our school will be recorded on our safeguarding system, will be securely copied to the placing school DSL and will be securely returned to the placing school on completion of the child's placement with us so there is a continuous safeguarding record for the child.

If children from our school are attending another setting, we will provide the school with any relevant child protection/welfare information. This will include access to a vulnerable child's EHC plan, child in need plan, child protection plan, early help plan or, for looked-after children, their personal education plan and know who the child's social worker (and, for looked-after children, who the responsible virtual school head is). We will envisage this to happen before a child arrives and, where that is not possible, as soon as reasonably practicable.

For looked-after children, changes will be managed by the Local Authority Virtual School Head who has responsibility for the child.

The DSL will undertake a risk assessment in respect of any new information received, considering how risks will be managed and which staff need to know about the information. This will be recorded on our safeguarding recording system.

18. Peer on Peer Abuse

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary 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, Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School 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 multi-agency partner required to ensure the safety and security of that young person.

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

Our school will promote the use of Bully Busters. Currently the Service will not be visiting schools to deliver anti bullying sessions, but they will continue to provide advice and guidance to anyone concerned about bullying. They can be contacted by email bbusters@localsolutions.org.uk. The Helpline will remain open: 3-6pm Monday – Friday – 0800 1696928

19. Radicalisation

School staff have received training about Prevent. The school has a Prevent Lead: Mrs Roberts/Mr O'Brien. All school staff are aware of the need to treat concerns about radicalisation as safeguarding concerns, and immediately share them with their Designated Safeguarding Lead (or deputies). DSLs continue to refer concerns about radicalisation to partner agencies, including Channel Panel which remains operational, in line with usual procedures. The Department for Education has also published information here on prevent management support for schools and colleges.

20. Domestic Abuse - Coronavirus (COVID-19): support for victims of domestic abuse including Operation Encompass

At our school we acknowledge that the order to stay at home can cause anxiety for those who are experiencing or feel at risk of domestic abuse. Domestic abuse is unacceptable in any situation, no matter what stresses you are under. For anyone who feels they are at risk of abuse, it is important to remember that there is help and support available to you

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-and-domestic-abuse/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-victims-of-domestic-abuse>

If a child, subject to an Operation Encompass notification, is not attending our school and is being cared for at home, we will risk assess the situation taking into consideration the history of the child and family. This information will be used in order to determine our response to each individual case. In all situations we would always aim to speak to the child.

We will, as a school, contact Sefton Women's and Children Aid (SWACA) to access free confidential support for women, children and young people throughout Sefton who are experiencing domestic abuse. Due to COVID 19 they are offering support via phone and email.

Tel: 0151 922 8606
Text: 07779745594
Email: help@swaca.com

The team is available **Monday, Tuesday & Thursday** 9.30am – 5.00pm
Wednesday 9.30am – 7.00pm **Friday** 9.30am – 3.00pm

Families at risk of Domestic Abuse can be signposted to the following resources:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help>

<https://www.womensaid.org.uk/covid-19-resource-hub/>

<http://thehideout.org.uk/>

<https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/>

<https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Safety%20planning%20guide,%20victims%20and%20survivors,%20COVID-19.pdf>

21. Mental Health

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary 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 Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School need to be aware of this in setting expectations of pupils' work where they are at home.

At Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School we understand as a school that children and young people and their families will be anxious and this can affect children's emotional health and well-being and their overall mental health.

The Government has issued guidance for parents and carers in relation to children and young people's mental health and well-being. This can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

22. Merseyside Police

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School continues to work in partnership with Merseyside Police. We are committed to publishing information produced by Merseyside Police in relation to COVID 19 to protect and safeguard our school community. We will also be reporting to the Police any information we receive as a school that may involve any criminal activity that is taking place including anti-social behaviour outside of school.

23. Support from the LA/ Multi-Academy Trust/ Senior Leadership in School

The Senior Leadership / Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) Central Safeguarding Team will provide support and guidance as appropriate to enable the DSL to carry out their role effectively.

This includes, remotely accessing Child Protection files for the purpose of quality assurance, support, guidance and direction. (Put your own arrangements in here)

The Senior Leadership/ MAT will also provide regular group and individual supervision sessions. This may take the form of an online meeting.

The LA Designated Lead for Education, Tracy McKeating will provide direct support for Designated Leads across all schools in Sefton.

24. Useful Contacts:

NAME	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Addaction	0707983430995
Bully Busters	0800 169 6928

CAMHS (single point of access	0151 282 4527
CATCH 22 CE	0151 934 2535
Channel Co-ordinator Claire Wright	0151 777 8328
Children Missing Education Co-ordinator Carole Blundell	0151 934 3181
Virtual Head teacher	0151 934 2226
Education Safeguarding Tracy McKeating	07837863075
Housing Options	0151 934 3541
Independent Domestic Abuse Advisors	0151 934 5142
Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Tracey Holyhead	0151 934 3783 Mob: 07814059604
LSCB Administrator Donna Atkinson	0151 934 4706
LSCB Business Manager Deb Hughes	0151 934 4706
Merseyside Police	101/emergency 999
Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)	0151 934 4013/ 4481.
Out of Hours Service	0151 934 3555.
Parenting 2000	01704 380047/0151 932 1163
Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre [RASA] Sefton	0151 558 1801
Sefton Women & Children's Aid (SWACA)	0151 922 8606
SEND Christopher Lee	07890387855
VENUS	0151 474 4744

Contacts for children who go to school in Sefton but live in neighbouring Local Authorities

Local Authority	Telephone number	Out of hours
Knowsley MASH	0151 443 2600	0151 443 2600 (same as MASH)
Lancashire Care Connect	0300 123 6720	0300 123 6722
Liverpool Care Line	0151 233 3700	0151 233 3700 (same as Care Line)

25. Review of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

At the present time, things continue to evolve and change daily and in the coming days advice from Central Government may change again. We will continue to keep this Policy under regular review and consult closely with the Local Authority regarding these arrangements to ensure they continue to provide an effective and helpful response for children and families in our school.

26. Further Support

The Department for Education COVID-19 helpline is available to answer questions.

DfE Coronavirus helpline

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Telephone: 0800 046 8687

Lines are open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm and weekends 10am to 4pm.

If you work in a school, please have your unique reference number (URN or UK PRN) available when calling the hotline.

Children's guide to coronavirus which aims to answer children's questions about coronavirus, tell children how to stay safe and protect other people and how to help them make the best of their time at home. This can be found at <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publication/childrens-guide-to-coronavirus/>

Sefton LSCB for the most up-to-date safeguarding information. You can access this at <https://seftonlscb.org.uk/lscb>