

Moreton Hall Educational Trust Ltd.

Covid 19 Safeguarding Policy Addendum

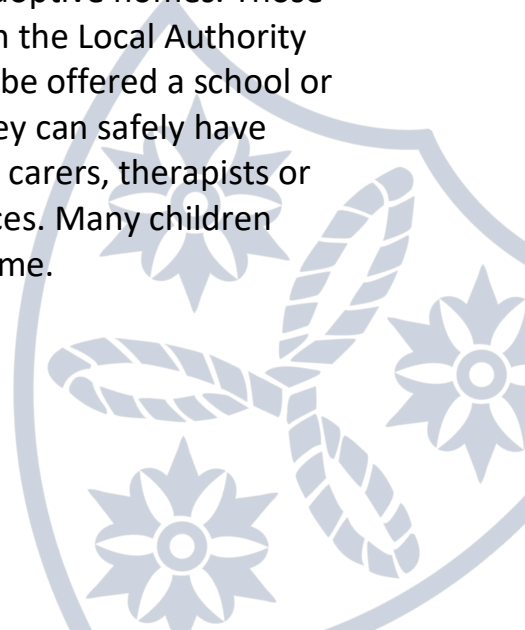
Context

From 6th January 2021 parents were asked to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and for schools to remain open for on-site childcare only for those children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response, and then only for those who absolutely need to attend due to a lack of other childcare options. 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 COVID19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

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.

Moreton Hall School recognises that previously looked after children are a potentially vulnerable group who may not have a social worker and will consider the support and offer to this cohort of children. In particular families and friend's carers may need additional support. Some previously looked after children may still have significant emotional wellbeing needs linked to their journey into care. Education settings have a key role in supporting the stability of those children with special guardianship orders or in adoptive homes. 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.



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. Moreton Hall will continue to work with and support children's social workers to help protect vulnerable children.

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. However, teachers should continue to maintain their own attendance registers and follow up non-attendance at online lessons in the normal way ie email to Housemistress and/or logging a concern on CPOMS. The Housemistress will continue to have oversight for monitoring patterns of engagement with online learning and follow up any concerns accordingly.

The school is recording the attendance of key worker children via the online portal.

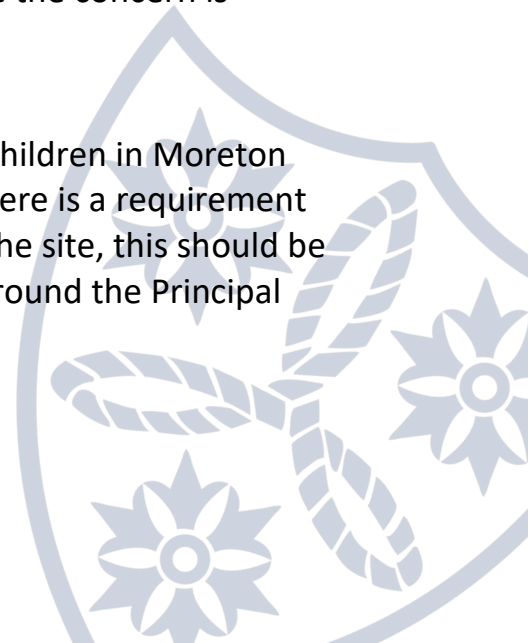
Reporting a Concern and making contact with The Designated Safeguarding Leads

The DSLs and their deputies remain as the first point of contact for all safeguarding queries and will continue to engage with social workers, and attend all multi-agency meetings.

Where staff have a concern about a child, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the Moreton Hall Safeguarding Policy.

Staff are reminded of the need to report any concern immediately and without delay. This may mean by email to the DSL/DDSL to ensure the concern is captured.

Where staff are concerned about an adult working with children in Moreton Hall, they should report the concern to the Principal. If there is a requirement to make a notification to the Principal whilst away from the site, this should be done verbally and followed up with an email. Concerns around the Principal should be directed to the Chair of Governors.





Moreton Hall will continue to offer support in the process of managing allegations.

Key Contacts

Senior School and Moreton Prep

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Sarah Hughes

Tel: 07970 147549 Email: hughess@moretonhall.com

Deputy DSL (Senior School) Abi Plowden

Tel: 07716 236560 Email: plowdena@moretonhall.com

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DSL Alyson Borthwick

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Deputy DSL Claire Watson

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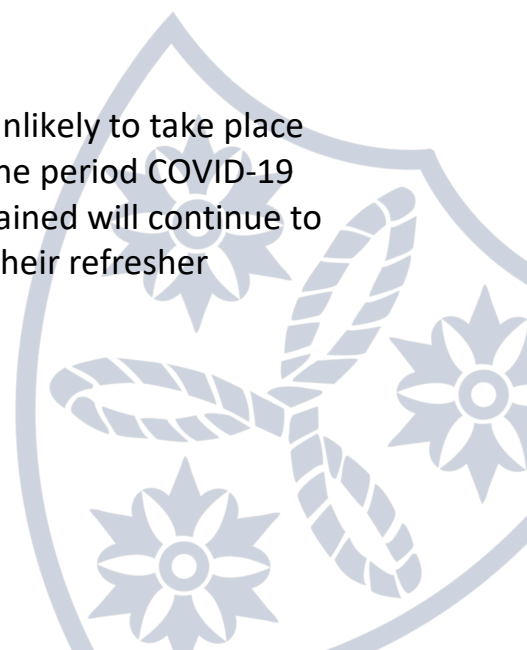
Safeguarding Governor

Annabel Foulger

Email: annabelfoulger9@gmail.com

Safeguarding Training

Safeguarding Training and induction DSL training is very unlikely to take place 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.





All existing Moreton Hall staff have had safeguarding training and have read and understand Part 1 and the Annexes of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020).

Recruitment 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, Moreton Hall 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 (2020) (KCSIE).

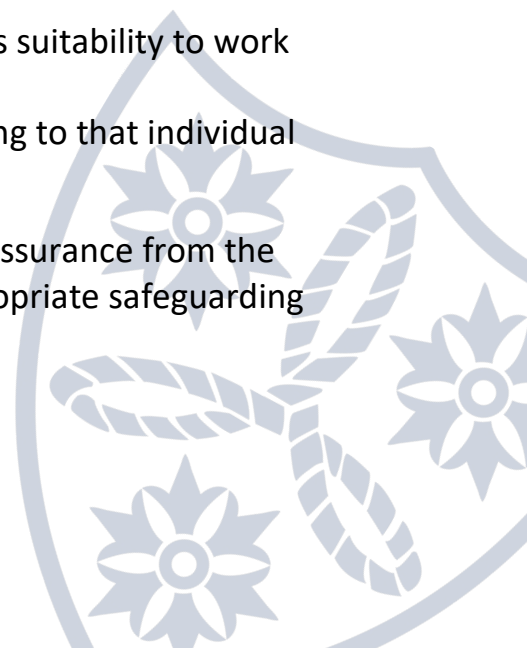
In response to COVID-19, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) has made changes to its guidance on standard and enhanced DBS ID checking to minimise the need for face-to-face contact. Should Moreton Hall utilise volunteers, they will ensure that they follow the checking and risk assessment process 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.

Should the need arise for staff to be deployed from another education or children's workforce setting outside Moreton Hall, the school will take into account the DfE supplementary guidance on safeguarding children during the COVID-19 pandemic and will accept portability as long as the original school 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 amongst schools, Moreton Hall will seek assurance from the donor school 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, confirmation of local processes and confirmation of DSL arrangements.

Moreton Hall 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.

Moreton Hall will also 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 Moreton Hall is aware, on any given day, which staff/volunteers will be in School, and that appropriate checks have been carried out, especially for anyone engaging in regulated activity.

As such, Moreton Hall will continue to keep the single central record (SCR) up to date as outlined in paragraphs 148 to 156 in KCSIE.

Online Safety

Moreton Hall will continue to encourage students to adopt sensible e safety practices whilst working online. However, we acknowledge that most students will now be using home networks that our own online filtering system (Smoothwall) cannot cover. Therefore the need for all stakeholders to follow the Internet Acceptable Use Policy and follow our existing E Safety Policies is paramount.

Online teaching should follow the principles as set out in Distance Learning Protocols (for parents, teachers and students) and Moreton Hall will ensure that any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements. Online teaching protocols are regularly circulated.





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 Moreton Hall's Safeguarding Policy and where appropriate, referrals will be made.

Bullying/Peer on Peer Abuse

Moreton Hall recognises that during the closure a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims. Where Moreton Hall receives a report of bullying and/or peer on peer abuse, they will follow the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE and of those outlined in the relevant policies.

Policy Update: 05.01.2021

