

Immanuel College Safeguarding Policy Addendum in light of COVID-19 measures (April 2020)

This addendum should be observed in conjunction with the BDAT Safeguarding and Child Protection Coronavirus (COVID 19) addendum at: <https://bit.ly/36mGh5j>

Guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) states that schools and Trusts should continue to have regard to the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) as per funding agreement requirements. The COVID-19 safeguarding guidance suggests where schools and Trusts might consider safeguarding policy and process differently during COVID-19 when compared to business as usual.

The key features of safeguarding remain the same:

- The best interests of children must always come first.
- If anyone has a safeguarding concern about any child, they should act and act immediately.
- A Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy DSL should be available.
- It is essential that unsuitable people are not allowed to enter the children's workforce and/or gain access to children.
- Children should be protected when they are online.

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)

Immanuel College will endeavour to have a trained DSL or Deputy DSL available on site. Where this is not possible, a trained DSL or Deputy DSL from the College will be available to be contacted via phone or online video.

In the unlikely event that neither of these scenarios is possible, the senior leader on site will take responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding including updating and managing access to child protection files, liaising with the offsite DSL (or Deputy DSL) 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 College.

Vulnerable Children

Immanuel College will:

- Continue to offer provision for vulnerable children, including those who have a social worker and those children and young people with EHCPs.
- Liaise with the local authority, including children's social care, to support these children to access the provision, unless it is agreed in consultation with the child's social worker and family that this is not in the best interests of the child.
- Maintain appropriate safeguarding measures to monitor students we believe are on the edges of receiving children's social care support or otherwise need support.

Attendance

The DSL and other trained safeguarding colleagues will liaise with social workers and families to agree whether children in need should be attending educational provision. Where this requirement is identified we will follow up on any identified child who does not attend.

Where a vulnerable child does not take up their place at school, or discontinues, we will notify their social worker.

For the following areas please see the BDAT Safeguarding and Child Protection Coronavirus (COVID 19) addendum at: <https://bit.ly/36mGh5j>

- Staff training and safeguarding induction
- Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff
- Mental Health
- Online safety in schools and colleges
- Children and online safety away from the academy
- Parents and Carers