Keeping Children Safe in Education Policy: COVID-19 addendum

This should be read in conjunction with:

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

Safeguarding vulnerable students

A team of 14 staff is involved in enacting the plan devised by the inclusion team before closure.

The plan covers children deemed vulnerable by the team because of their SEND; safeguarding history and current concerns.

Parents of those in care, with an allocated social worker or with an EHC plan have been contacted individually and offered provision in school.

All the pupils on the plan are receiving regular telephone calls and, as appropriate emails, from an identified member of the team. Each has an alternate designate in case the allocated member falls ill. The frequency is determined by the age and needs of each student.

The planned visits were suspended after the 'lockdown measures' were imposed from 24.3.20 and keyworkers from external agencies informed.
 Staff phoning on personal mobiles/landlines when making calls have been told not to disclose their telephone numbers if not using a school mobile.

All contacts are being recorded on CPOMS and shared with Safeguarding team and Year Heads. The DSL is sharing with external agencies as appropriate.

Any concerns or failure to make contact are being reported to the safeguarding team who are acting in accordance with KCSiE policy.

The plan will remain in force throughout the Easter holiday and be reviewed as appropriate.

Safeguarding all students

The DSL and ADSLs are available to all staff by email and telephone, at least from 8.30 am until 5.00pm. The County Upper email is being monitored by three staff from early morning until 10.00pm, seven days a week and any student or parent concerns sent to the safeguarding team. This will continue through the Easter holiday period.

The extensive site security systems continue during this period to prevent any unauthorised access.

Prior to closure, all students and parents were notified that lessons would be via Google classroom and the school's acceptable policy would apply.

The ICT network manager and his deputy are monitoring students' accounts and staff or students can report abuse.

The four campuses of the Trust are in regular contact. Currently, there has not been a need to collapse to form a smaller hub so no additional requirements for the movement of students or staff are required.

There is the facility to share DSL support across the campuses.

The daily attendance report is being submitted to the DfE and the LA kept informed of any changes to the opening arrangements.

Students have information on accessing mental health support. This is to be reissued during the week before the Easter holiday.

Online advice for staff

For the period up to Easter, staff are using Google classroom and that the Acceptable Use policy remained in force. Staff are not using any platforms to contact students directly.

After Easter, staff will be given further guidelines on communicating with students. The ICT network manager and his deputy are looking at the use of interactive platforms for staff to use safe methods of interaction with students. They are currently working through the advice given on:

https://swgfl.org.uk/resources/safe-remote-learning/

https://static.lgfl.net/LgflNet/downloads/digisafe/Safe-Lessons-by-Video-and-Livestream.pdf

This advice will be updated for the start of the summer term and advice for students reissued as appropriate.

28.03.20