

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

27th March 2020

Here at Renishaw Primary School we are always looking to put your child at the centre of everything that we do. With this in mind we have put together the following information in order to help to protect and support families if your child is in school or not. Please carefully read the following information as there may be times over the coming weeks when you and your family need the same level of support as if we are in school. Please take care of your family members and those within the wider community. Remember:

We're All Renishaw Aren't We?

Safeguarding Procedures during school closure

We are mindful that during this time of school closure, you may be witnessing or experiencing safeguarding concerns that you would usually share with school and may be wondering what you should do now? As always, we must work together to ensure that the children and adults in our community stay safe.

What is classed as a safeguarding concern?

The Department for Education classes safeguarding as:

- protecting children from maltreatment;
- preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

See more details in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019'

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/835733/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2019.pdf

Who is at risk?

We know that any child may be vulnerable but nationally and statistically we should be particularly alert to the potential need for help for a child who:

- is disabled and has specific additional needs
- has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan)
- is a young carer
- is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups
- is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home
- is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation
- is at risk of being radicalised or exploited
- is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health issues and domestic abuse
- is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves
- has returned home to their family from care; and
- is a privately fostered child.

Whilst it is important to be aware of national statistics we would never make the presumption a disabled child or a child with additional needs in our community will be vulnerable.

What happens if I have a concern now school is closed?

Please be assured that we are still able to respond to safeguarding concerns and pastoral concerns in our community. We continue to work as the RPS team of Designated Safeguarding Leads, highly skilled and dedicated staff. We have maintained links with all local and national safeguarding agencies.

If you need to report a concern, please contact school by email (info@renishaw.derbyshire.sch.uk) We will deal with the concern as we would if school were still open and triage the concern before deciding on the most appropriate course of action including liaising with Derbyshire Starting Point or Sheffield Safeguarding Hub.

If you think a child is at immediate risk of significant harm, please contact Social Care directly:

Derbyshire 01629 533190
Sheffield 0114 2734855

What is happening for the most vulnerable students?

We have contacted our most vulnerable students already as per government guidance and offered places in school and will remain in regular contact through our pastoral teams. We have also contacted students who were receiving positive support and are continuing this remotely.

What about those children on free school meals?

We have ordered food boxes which will arrive at the end of the week for our families who qualify for free school meals and these will be left for school to pick up from school.

What if our household is experiencing unbearable stress during this time of lockdown?

We are aware that this may be a very stressful time for some children and adults and unfortunately this often sees a spike in safeguarding concerns.

The Children's Society have shared this information around dealing with conflict at home.

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/news-and-blogs/our-blog/dealing-with-conflict-at-home>

Heads Together, have published a free toolkit with resources and tips to help address anxiety arising from these challenging times. The toolkit includes activities to ease anxiety that can be done at school or at home and other helpful advice, helplines and resources for adults and children:

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/media/1960/coronavirus-mental-health-and-wellbeingresources.Pdf>

Please see the '**Helplines, apps and websites if you need help now**' section at the end of this letter, with details of many external agencies who can also offer support.

What have Derbyshire Police issued?

Derbyshire Police has issued the following statement (full details can be seen by following the link

<https://www.derbyshire.police.uk/news/derbyshire/news/news/forcewide/2020/march/residents-urgedto-report-domestic-abuse-concerns/>)

- We are urging residents to look and listen for the signs of domestic and child abuse and report any concerns to the police
- If you are aware of, or suspect that a neighbour, friend or family member may be a victim of domestic violence, please ensure that this is reported as soon as possible
- If you are currently experiencing domestic violence yourself, please remember that you are not alone. If you possibly can, try to find a private place to contact any of the services listed below
- People are able to get support by calling the Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Support Line on 08000 198 668. You can also find more information by visiting the [website](#)
- The current situation may cause increased pressure for families and if you are struggling to manage your emotions and behaviour please seek help and advice by ringing Respect on 0808 802 4040

We would like to reiterate that we are here to support you and your families and our community during this unprecedented time. Your safety is at the heart of what we stand for and has never been so imperative. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any safeguarding concerns.

We're All Renishaw Aren't We?

Kind regards

Simon Fuller
Headteacher
Renishaw Primary School

Helplines, apps and websites if you need help now

	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Website</u>	<u>Online Chat</u>
Childline Free, confidential service where you can talk about anything you want	0800 1111 free 24/7	www.childline.org.uk	✓
The Mix Info and support for the under 25s for all kinds of issues	0808 8084994 free not 24/7	www.themix.org.uk	4pm – 11pm ✓
Young Minds Mental health support	Crisis text messenger 85258 free 24/7	youngminds.org.uk	
Runaway Helpline Support when you have gone missing	116000 free confidential 24/7	www.missingpeople.org.uk/how-we-can-help/young-people/646-saysomething.html	
Kooth Free, anonymous online counselling and support for young people	0800 528 0731 free not 24/7	www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/help-at-hand	
stopitnow! Help if you are worried about your online behaviour or someone else's	0808 1000 900 free confidential weekdays 9am-9pm	www.stopitnow.org.uk	
B-eat Support with eating disorders	0808 1000 900 free confidential 9am-9pm	www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk	✓
Brook Sexual health advice for under 25s		www.brook.org.uk	

Children's Society Support with various mental health and emotional issues for 13-17s		www.childrenssociety.org.uk/mental-health-advice-for-children-and-youth-people/the-advice-resourcevault/advice-for-children-age-13-17	
SelfHarm UK Support with self-harm		www.selfharm.co.uk	
Shout Crisis text messenger service (any age)	Text 85258 24/7	https://www.giveusashout.org/gethelp/	
IMAlive Online crisis messenger service (based in US)	24/7	https://www.imalive.org/	✓
Calm Harm Free app to help manage self-harm urges X https://calmharm.co.uk/		https://calmharm.co.uk/	
The Hideout Domestic Abuse website for young people		http://thehideout.org.uk/	
Frank Honest information and advice about drugs and alcohol	0300 1236600 Text 82111 confidential 24/7		
CEOP Reporting online sexual abuse or content		https://www.ceop.police.uk/safetycentre/	
Samaritans Free confidential support line for people who are feeling desperate	116 123	https://www.samaritans.org/	On its way! Chat will be available soon.

MeeTwo Free mental health support app for young people to talk to experts or people with similar issues		https://www.meetwo.co.uk/	Anonymous posts in the app allow chat with other people (posts moderated in advance)
Fearless Information and advice about youth crime. 100% anonymous crime reporting		https://www.fearless.org/en	
101 Non- emergency Police number. For emergencies DIAL	101 15p per call		
111 Non- emergency health advice. For emergencies DIAL 999.	111 Call if you are seriously worried about symptoms 24/7 free	https://111.nhs.uk/ Use website if your enquiry isn't serious	
Derby Social Care Worried about a child	01332 641172 during the day 01332 640777 after 5pm and at weekends	www.ddscp.org.uk	
Derbyshire Social care Worried about a child	01629 533190	www.ddscp.org.uk	
Catch22 Derby & Derbyshire C.A.R.E.S. Children at Risk of Exploitation Services	07714 614 4536	www.catch-22.org.uk/services/derbyderbyshire-children-at-risk-of-exploitation-service/	
CORE Supporting victims of crime in Derbyshire	0800 612 6505 TEXT 'COREDVS' TO 82228	www.core-derbyshire.com//	