



9th April 2020

RE: Safeguarding update

Dear Parents/Carers,

With the current government advice in place school still remains closed for all but a few Critical worker or vulnerable children. With this in mind we have had to consider the impact this will have on the normal safeguarding policies and procedures that form the foundation of the care and support offered in school.

Welfare Call

With fewer opportunities to see our children we have been making welfare calls to all our families to 'touch base' and ensure there isn't anything further we can do to support you during this unprecedented time. We will ask how you are, whether you are safe, and whether we can do anything to support. We may ask about food and access to medicines, and if your family qualifies for Free School Meals (FSM) we will check you have received the latest vouchers and try to help where there are any problems. It is also a fantastic opportunity to chat with the children, to remind them that we haven't forgotten them, to let them speak to a member of staff and share the learning and fun they are having at home.

School Contact

When we first closed three weeks ago all families were also given access to contact email addresses for Senior members of staff. Please use these in an emergency, if you haven't received a welfare call and you would like someone to give you a ring, to get support regarding FSM or to ask any learning related questions.

Year group	Senior Manager	Contact
EYFS	Mr. Gravell	d.gravell@feathstn.bham.sch.uk
Year 1 and 2	Miss. Lacey	j.lacey@feathstn.bham.sch.uk
Year 3 and 4	Mr. Douglas	n.douglas@feathstn.bham.sch.uk
Year 5 and 6	Miss. Whitehouse	l.whitehouse@feathstn.bham.sch.uk

As we do not have the staff numbers available on school site our phone lines remain closed, we have given an emergency contact number to our critical worker families but ask that this is only used in an emergency.

On line Safety

We ask that you monitor your child's online activity closely, this extends to their use of social media to keep in contact with their friends and family. The added use of online activity increases the risk to our children of peer on peer abuse through the form of bullying, sexting and cyber bullying. Please do share the online safety information with your children and help to keep them safe.



We ask that you are also vigilant to the children in the community around you, whether the children attend Featherstone or other schools in the area, raising concerns where you are worried. Please also be vigilant for vulnerable adults in your community. We want you to know what to do if you have any concerns relating to the safety and welfare of any one, both at home and in the community.

Safeguarding Concern

If you are concerned about a child please email enquiry@feathstn.bham.sch.uk and clearly state you would like to receive a call from a designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and someone will contact you via telephone as quickly as possible. Within school there are a number of measures in place to safeguard our children and families, we have access to a range of different services that can provide support. Our support includes access to food banks and local support groups and charities.

We have ensured that there is always a DSL available to address any concerns raised in school and whilst school is open to our critical worker and vulnerable families a DSL is always on school site. A system is in place should staffing numbers be impacted directly due to illness, shielding or self-isolation rules or guidelines.

Alternatively, you can contact the Children's Advisory Support Service (CASS) directly on 0121 303 1888. They will be able to provide advice and support accessing a wider range of services.

If you feel a child is at risk of immediate significant harm contact 999 and ask for the Police.

If you would like to know what support groups are available to you, but you don't feel able to contact Featherstone please visit: www.the-waitingroom.org.

The latest update to our Safeguarding Policy that covers the actions taken by school during this unprecedented school closure can be found on our school website at www.featherstoneprimaryschool.co.uk.

Finally, we want to thank you for all you are doing to ensure the safety of those around you; for staying at home, for keeping travel to essential journeys, for limiting visits to the supermarkets and shops. In line with Government guidelines and advice thank you for staying home, staying safe and saving lives.

We hope you and your family remain safe.

Kind regards

Mr E Gaibee (Headteacher)