



The Hills Academy

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Headteacher: Mrs Moya Whitehead

3rd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Good Morning – another lovely window picture to share this morning:



French for Early Years to Year 2/3

One of our lovely mums – Aurelie teaches French and she has started to upload some free videos on Youtube. They are lovely if you would like to do a little bit of French at home.

1st video: <https://youtu.be/iNSt0YtFxDo>

2nd video: <https://youtu.be/YoRTVcMmLwI>

Amendment notes for Safeguarding Policy during Covid-19 response and school closure. To be in place until the current restrictions are withdrawn or when Safeguarding policy is due for renewal in September 2020

Compiled by: Moya Whitehead – DSL (Designated Safeguarding lead and Headteacher)

1. The DSL, DDSL and Pupil Premium champion (Namely Moya Whitehead, Caroline Starr and Debbie Bennett) will have weekly contact with all vulnerable pupils.
2. The parents/carers of the most vulnerable children – those with a social worker – are encouraged to bring the children into school (even a couple of days a week). Where they chose not to or are not able to due to self-isolation regular phone calls will be made as described in 1
3. MYCONCERN (safeguarding management information system) is still to be used by all staff so that if they have any concerns around communication with families etc they can log them from home. Any updates or contact with vulnerable families will also be added to their chronology during this time.
4. Teachers have been asked to report weekly if they have not had any contact from a family of a child in their class through the class email address. This will be logged on MYCONCERN and followed up by a member of the SLT

5. The DSL and DDSL will continue to engage in Child Protection and Child In Need, Early Help and Team Around the Family meetings – this will almost always be done remotely.
6. The school nurse (Judith Joyce) is in close contact with the DSL and will make face to face visits to very vulnerable families not in school when needed.
7. A Safeguarding newsletter and parent survey will go out from the school to explain the updated procedures and ask them if they feel safe and if they know what to do if they don't or they are worried. Any concerns will be followed up individually.
8. A childline contact poster will be sent to all families. Links to the Bedford community hub will be sent to all families.

Now you have read this please can you go to our survey and complete it – it will help us to know if we are meeting the safeguarding needs of our community. Any answers will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, but I will follow up privately with anyone who reports a concern.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BSTCVFS>

Do you need help?

If you have a safeguarding concern about your child or any child you know then please contact the school. You can email Moya directly on headteacher@thehillsacademy.co.uk or you can contact the NSPCC where you can make an anonymous report if preferred.

The Bedford Borough Community Hub is up and running if you need support with shopping, food parcels and prescriptions. For urgent help you should call 01234 718101 or you can visit the website <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/social-care-health-and-community/public-health/coronavirus/coronavirus-community-hub/> And click on the 'Request for help' purple button.

Remember to consider the mental health and wellbeing of yourself and those around you. There are some useful resources at:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/looking-after-your-mental-health-during-coronavirus-outbreak>

Childline

Childline is a great charity that deals with everything from teenage mood swings, managing anxiety, helping a friend, dealing with inappropriate images online and supporting children in families where domestic abuse is occurring. You can seek support or resources at <https://www.childline.org.uk/> or phone them on 0800 1111