







# **LUMINATE FE COLLEGES**

# SAFEGUARDING & CHILDREN AND ADULTS POLICY

**Addendum January 2021** 

COVID-19 closure arrangements for Safeguarding and Child Protection at Luminate FE Colleges

**Luminate FE Colleges: Luminate FE Colleges** 

**Policy owner: Andrew Ottey** 

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1.	Context	3
2.	Key contacts	3
<i>3.</i>	Other Key Contacts:	4
4.	Vulnerable children	4
<b>5.</b>	Attendance monitoring	6
6.	Designated Safeguarding Lead	6
<b>7.</b>	Reporting a concern	<i>7</i>
8.	Safeguarding Training and induction	8
9.	Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff	8
<i>10.</i>	Online safety in colleges	9
11.	Children and online safety away from college	10
<i>12.</i>	Supporting children not in college	11
<i>13.</i>	Supporting children in college	11
14.	Peer on Peer Abuse	12
<i>15.</i>	Mental health and Well-Being	12
	Staff who bring their own children into college due to a lack of table alternative childcare	13
1 <i>7</i> .	Support from the Local Authority	13
18.	The use of personal mobile phones	13

#### 1. Context

From 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 parents were asked to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and for schools and colleges to remain open only for those children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response who absolutely need to attend and children who are vulnerable and cannot be safely cared for at home.

It is the responsibility of the host college for safeguarding and child protection for all students who are attending regardless of whether they are on roll at that school or college.

All staff working in schools and colleges should understand their specific roles in the safeguarding of children.

This addendum of the Luminate FE Colleges Safeguarding Children and Adults Policy contains details of our individual safeguarding arrangements in the following areas:

#### 2. Key contacts

Role	Name	Contact Details
Designated	Andrew Ottey	07710 138 460
Safeguarding		Andrew.Ottey@leedscitycollege.
Lead		ac.uk
Deputy	Rebecca Riley	07554 222 339
Designated		Rebecca.Riley@leedscitycollege.
Safeguarding		ac.uk
Lead		
Principal	Bill Jones – Leeds	Bill.Jones@luminate.ac.uk
	City College	
	Steve Kelly –	Steve.Kelly@keighleycollege.
	Keighley College	<u>ac.uk</u>
	Danny Wild –	<u>Danny.Wild@harrogate.ac.uk</u>
	Harrogate	
	College	
Chair of	Shaid Mahmood	Shaid.Mahmood@luminate.ac.uk
Governors		

### 3. Other Key Contacts:

Team	Contact	Contact		
Children's Services Education	Leeds	estconsultation@leeds.gov.uk 0113 378 9685		
Safeguarding	Bradford	01274 437 043		
Team	North Yorkshire	01609 780 780		
Children's social work	Leeds	childscreening@leeds.gov.uk 0113 376 0336		
service duty and advice	Bradford	01274 437 500		
team	North Yorkshire	01609 780 780		
Emergency Duty Team	Leeds	0113 535 0600 childrensEDT@leeds.gov.uk		
(Out of	Bradford	01274 431 010		
hours)	North Yorkshire	01609 780 780		
Prevent	Leeds	01135 350 810		
Team	Bradford	prevent@leeds.gov.uk 01274 376 215		
	North Yorkshire	01609 798 554		
LADO service	Leeds	0113 378 9687 lado@leeds.gov.uk		
	Bradford	01274 437 915  CPInformation@bradford.gov.uk		
	North Yorkshire	01609 532477 safeguardingunit@northyorks.gov.uk		
Crisis line	Leeds	0113 378 3645		
	Bradford	01274 221 181		
	North Yorkshire	0800 561 0076		

#### 4. Vulnerable children

As outlined in government guidance published in January 2021 vulnerable children and young people are defined as those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child;
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan;
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
  - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
  - o adopted children or children on a special quardianship order
  - those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
  - o those living in temporary accommodation
  - those who are young carers
  - those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
  - care leavers
  - others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health.

Eligibility for free college meals in and of itself is not a determining factor in assessing vulnerability.

Senior leaders, especially the Designated Safeguarding Lead (and deputy) know who our most vulnerable children are. They have the flexibility to offer a place to those on the edge of receiving children's social care support.

Luminate FE Colleges will continue to work with and support children's social workers to help protect vulnerable children. This includes working with and supporting children's social workers and the local authority virtual college head (VSH) for looked-after and previously looked-after children. The lead person for this will be Andrew Ottey along with Katie Ball for Children Looked After.

There is an expectation that vulnerable children who have a social worker will attend an education setting, so long as they do not have underlying health conditions that put them at increased risk. In circumstances where a parent does not want to bring their child to an education setting, and their child is considered vulnerable, the social worker and Luminate FE Colleges will explore the reasons for this directly with the parent.

Where parents are concerned about the risk of the child contracting COVID19, Luminate FE Colleges or the social worker will talk through these anxieties with the parent/carer following the advice set out by Public Health England.

Luminate FE Colleges will encourage our vulnerable children and young people to attend college, including remotely if needed.

#### 5. Attendance monitoring

In mainstream schools, all secondary-age pupils who are not expected to be in college during the weeks commencing 4 and 11 January 2021, should be recorded as 'code X'.

Children for whom on-site provision is being provided should be recorded in line with the normal college attendance requirements.

Shielding advice is currently in place in tier 4 areas, and so all children still deemed clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend college.

Luminate FE Colleges and social workers will agree with parents/carers whether children in need should be attending college – Luminate FE Colleges will then follow up on any pupil that they were expecting to attend, who does not.

Luminate FE Colleges will also follow up with any parent or carer who has arranged care for their child(ren) and the child(ren) subsequently do not attend.

Phone calls will be made to the parents/carers in these circumstances.

To support the above, Luminate FE Colleges will, when communicating with parents/carers and carers, confirm emergency contact numbers are correct and ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available.

In all circumstances where a vulnerable child with a social worker does not take up their place at school, or discontinues, Luminate FE Colleges will notify their allocated social worker.

Children on the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable list are not expected to attend College.

#### **6. Designated Safeguarding Lead**

Luminate FE Colleges has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and a Deputy DSL.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Andrew Ottey

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Rebecca Riley

Where a campus is open to students a trained Designated Safeguarding Officer will be on site.

The DSL and Deputy DSL will be available by phone or via google hangouts for consultation throughout.

Heads of Departments are responsible for ensuring a trained DSO is on site and liaising with the DSL or Deputy DSL where there is no one available. Where this is the case it will be covered by one of the Stay Safe Officers.

It is important that all Luminate FE Colleges staff and volunteers have access to a trained DSO, DSL (or deputy). On each day, the staff on site will be made aware of who that person is and how to contact them. All onsite staff should be made aware of the children's services education safeguarding team consultation line number (0113 3789685) should a DSL be unavailable and they require safeguarding advice.

The DSOs will continue to engage with social workers, and attend all multi-agency meetings, which can be done remotely.

The DSL will ensure that operational staff with designated safeguarding responsibilities, access regular supervision, which can be undertaken remotely through electronic communications (e.g. skype, mobile communications etc.)

#### 7. Reporting a concern

Where staff have a concern about a student, they should continue to follow the process outlined in the College Safeguarding Policy. This includes making a report and formally recording concerns via the college 's electronic safeguarding systems, (CPOMS) which can be done remotely. Or secure email systems with completed cause for concern forms attached.

Staff are reminded of the need to report any concern immediately and without delay.

Where staff are concerned about an adult working with children in the school, they should contact the Head of Safeguarding and Wellbeing, Andrew Ottey and/or the HR Head of Business Partnering.

Concerns around the Headteacher should be directed to the Chair of Governors: Shaid Mahmood

All staff must follow Part 4 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020) and the local authority model safeguarding model child protection policy (section 10.2) guidance for managing allegations against staff. The case manager must use the local authority designated officer (LADO) notification form (see Appendix 13 of local authority model safeguarding model child protection policy) in order to assess the level of concern. As part of this initial consideration, the case manager should consult with their College's HR Advisor/provider/contact. The completed LADO notification form must be sent to (Leeds:<a href="mailto:lado@leeds.gov.uk">lado@leeds.gov.uk</a>, Bradford:

<u>CPInformation@bradford.gov.uk</u> and North Yorkshire: safeguardingunit@northyorks.gov.uk) within one working day of the allegation being made.

The education safeguarding team manager (Raminder Aujla <a href="mainter.aujla@leeds.gov.uk">raminder.aujla@leeds.gov.uk</a>) will continue to offer support in the process of managing allegations. For Bradford the duty LADO or safeguarding duty coordinator on 01274435600 will be able to offer support and for North Yorkshire contact the duty LADO on 01609532477.

#### 8. Safeguarding Training and induction

For the period COVID-19 measures are in place, a DSL (or deputy) who has been trained will continue to be classed as a trained DSL (or deputy) even if access to their refresher training delayed. Refresher safeguarding training for all staff can be accessed remotely through <a href="https://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk/">https://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk/</a>

All existing college staff have had safeguarding training and have read part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020). The DSL should communicate with staff any new local arrangements, so they know what to do if they are worried about a child.

Where new staff are recruited, or new volunteers enter Luminate FE Colleges, they will continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction and training. The local authority education safeguarding team child protection training offer can be accessed remotely through <a href="https://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk/">https://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk/</a>

Upon arrival, new staff will be issued with the statutory safeguarding documents as outlined in Part One of Keeping Children Safe In Education 2020 including a copy of the receiving setting's safeguarding and child protection policy, guidance for safer working practice for staff working in educational settings, behaviour policy, children missing education procedures, online safety policy including acceptable use and confirmation of local processes and confirmation of DSL arrangements.

#### 9. Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff

It remains essential that people who are unsuitable are not allowed to enter the children's workforce or gain access to children. When recruiting new staff, Luminate FE Colleges will continue to follow the relevant safer recruitment processes for their setting, including, as appropriate, relevant sections in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020) (KCSIE).

In response to COVID-19, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) has made changes to its guidance on standard and enhanced DBS ID checking to minimise the

need for face-to-face contact. <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-changes-to-dbs-id-checking-quidelines">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-changes-to-dbs-id-checking-quidelines</a>

If staff are deployed from another education or children's workforce setting to our school, we will take into account the DfE supplementary guidance on safeguarding children during the COVID-19 pandemic and will accept portability as long as the current employer confirms in writing that:

- the individual has been subject to an enhanced DBS and children's barred list check
- there are no known concerns about the individual's suitability to work with children
- there is no ongoing disciplinary investigation relating to that individual

Where Luminate FE Colleges are utilising volunteers (including for mass testing), we will continue to follow the checking and risk assessment process as set out in paragraphs 183 to 188 of KCSIE (2020). Under no circumstances will a volunteer who has not been checked be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity. Undertaking COVID testing on children directly who are unable to do this themselves will meet the regulated activity requirement.

Luminate FE Colleges will continue to follow the legal duty to refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed or poses a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult. Full details can be found at paragraph 179 of KCSIE (2020).

Luminate FE Colleges will continue to consider and make referrals to the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) as per paragraph 182 of KCSIE (2020) and the TRA's 'Teacher misconduct advice for making a referral.

During the COVID-19 period all referrals should be made by emailing Misconduct.Teacher@education.gov.uk

Whilst acknowledging the challenge of the current National emergency, it is essential from a safeguarding perspective that any college is aware, on any given day, which staff/volunteers will be in the college, and that appropriate checks have been carried out, especially for anyone engaging in regulated activity. As such, Luminate FE Colleges will continue to keep the single central record (SCR) up to date as outlined in paragraphs 164 to 171 in KCSIE (2020). All staff employed to conduct mass testing are added to the SCR.

#### 10. Online safety in colleges

Luminate FE Colleges will continue to provide a safe environment, including online. This includes the use of an online filtering system.

Where students are using computers in college, appropriate supervision will be in place.

#### 11. Children and online safety away from college

Where students are using digital technology away from college for the purposes of remote learning, the duty to ensure appropriate supervision is the responsibility of the child's parent/carer as outlined in the College's acceptable use policy.

It is important that all staff who interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns should be dealt with as per the Child Protection Policy and where appropriate referrals should still be made to children's social care and as required, the police.

Online teaching should follow the same principles as set out in the Guidance for safer working practice (including Covid-19 Addendum issued in April 2020) for those working with children and young people in education settings (National Safer Recruitment Consortium May 2019).

Luminate FE Colleges will ensure any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements.

Below are some things to consider when delivering virtual lessons, especially where webcams are involved:

- It is recommended that tuition takes place in groups. Where 1:1 to tuition or other 1:1 contact such as tutorial and welfare check-ins are taking place verbal consent should be obtained from the student to engage in 1:1 meetings online
- Consideration should be given to the recording of sessions so that if any issues were
  to arise the video can be reviewed. It is not mandatory to record all online or one to
  one sessions. Individual staff members should make a judgement whether they deem
  it suitable to record the session based on any potential risks, if unsure advice should
  be sought from their line manager.
- Staff and students must wear suitable clothing, as should anyone else in the household.
- Any computers used should be in appropriate areas, for example, not in bedrooms; staff need to be mindful that backgrounds do not compromise personal confidentiality or breach the guiding principles of safer working practice guidance for staff working in educational settings.
- Live classes should be kept to a reasonable length of time, or the streaming may prevent the family 'getting on' with their day.
- Language must be professional and appropriate, including any family members in the background.
- Staff must only use platforms specified by senior managers and approved by our IT network manager / provider to communicate with students.

- Email communication should always be from college accounts not personal email accounts.
- Staff should be working on college devices over personal devices wherever possible.
- Students, parents/carers should not be contacted by phone on staff members' own mobile devices.
- Communication should take place within college hours.
- Staff should not share any personal information.
- Take care not to share contact details when emailing multiple people.
- Be careful when sharing usernames and other personal data for access to online resources.

#### 12. Supporting children not in school

Luminate FE Colleges is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students.

Where the DSL has identified a child to be on the edge of social care support, or who would normally receive pastoral-type support in college, they should ensure that a robust communication plan is in place for that child or young person.

Details of this plan must be recorded, as should a record of all contacts made.

The communication plans can include: remote contact, phone contact, door-step visits. Other individualised contact methods should be considered and recorded.

Luminate FE Colleges and its DSL will work closely with all stakeholders to maximise the effectiveness of any communication plan.

This plan must be reviewed regularly and where concerns arise, the DSL will consider any referrals as appropriate.

The college will share safeguarding messages on its website and social media pages.

Luminate FE Colleges recognises that college is a protective factor for children and young people, and the current circumstances, can affect the mental health of pupils and their parents/carers. Staff at Luminate FE Colleges need to be aware of this when setting expectations for pupils who are engaging in remote learning.

#### 13. Supporting students in College

Luminate FE Colleges is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students.

Luminate FE Colleges will continue to be a safe space for all students to attend and flourish. Heads of Department will ensure that appropriate staff are on site and staff to student ratio numbers are appropriate, to maximise safety.

Luminate FE Colleges will refer to the Government guidance for education and childcare settings on how to implement social distancing and continue to follow the advice from Public Health England on handwashing and other measures to limit the risk of spread of COVID19.

Luminate FE Colleges will ensure that where we care for children of critical workers and vulnerable children on site, we ensure appropriate support is in place for them.

Where Luminate FE Colleges has concerns about the impact of staff absence – such as our Designated Safeguarding Lead or first aiders – we will discuss them immediately with the local authority education safeguarding team and/or health and safety team.

#### 14. Peer on Peer Abuse

Luminate FE Colleges recognises that during the closure a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims.

Where a college receives a report of peer-on-peer abuse, they will follow the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE and of those outlined within of the Child Protection Policy.

The College will listen and work with the young person, parents/carers and any multi-agency partner required to ensure the safety and security of that young person.

Concerns and actions must be recorded in keeping with college reporting and recording systems and appropriate referrals made.

#### 15. Mental health and Well-Being

Luminate FE Colleges recognises that the current exceptional circumstances may affect the mental health and well-being of students, parents and staff in many different ways. College will ensure that they have details of appropriate support available and this will be accessible for students, parents and staff.

These are unusual and difficult times for many people and for some families they may become traumatic times and involve loss and grief. We have provided appropriate home learning for our pupils to complete during this period of time whilst the vast majority of pupils are at home. Although learning is very important, and we want to make the best use of this time, we recognise that the expectations of this may be challenging on some students and families. College will provide reassurance and support to students, parents and staff in order to manage these expectations without putting additional stresses and pressure on individuals.

Colleges should continue to support pastoral support to their pupils and seek advice from services when necessary about the universal and targeted offer around mental health and wellbeing. Colleges should ensure that there is a plan in place for how any bereavements may be handled, including obtaining support services as appropriate.

Useful contacts/web links:

Child line: 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk www.nhs.uk Mind.org.uk

www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing

www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/looking-after-your-mental-health-during-coronavirus-outbreak

www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/talking-to-children-about-feelings/https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeingwww.mindmate.org.uk/

# 16. Staff who bring their own children into college due to a lack of suitable alternative childcare

In addition to advice issued centrally by the Local Authority on this issue: where these are pre college children schools must also have regard to the Disqualification Regulations 2018: The <a href="Childcare">Childcare</a> (Disqualification) Regulations 2018 and <a href="Childcare">Childcare</a> (Disqualification) Regulations 2018 and <a href="Childcare">Childcare</a> (Disqualification) Regulations 2018.

#### 17. Support from the Local Authority

The Children's Services Education Safeguarding Team will continue to provide support and guidance as appropriate to enable DSLs to carry out their role effectively.

#### 18. The use of personal mobile phones.

In situations where staff have agreed to use their own personal mobile phone to make contact with families, staff and college will need to put in place systems to ensure the staff member's personal number is not visible to parents and carers. Staff should not give parents/carers personal mobile telephone numbers as a point of contact. In an emergency situation, where this is deemed essential, specific permission must be granted by an appropriate senior leader.

Staff who require access to their mobile phone during the college day due to: test and trace notifications (for instances such as their own children who may require picking up due to collapsed bubbles etc..) will be required to follow the principles set out in the guidance for safer working practice (12. Communication with children (including the use of technology)). Mobile phones should be used in line with individual college guidance and should not be used for non-educational purposes when supervising or teaching children. Staff should take reasonable steps to ensure they are not distracted from their duties by non-urgent alerts or notifications. Where staff receive urgent alerts related to the COVID track and trace NHS App or their own children's college they should follow college procedures to ensure continuity of supervision for any students in their care.