

**COVID-19 school closure arrangements for Online Safety**

**Greenbank High School**

**School Name: Greenbank High School**

**Policy owner: Mrs Whittaker – Assistant Headteacher**

**Date: 1st April 2020**

**Date shared with staff: 2nd April 2020**

**Date shared with Governors: 2nd April 2020**

# **Addendum to Online Safety Policy during School Closure for COVID-19 - April 2020**

# **In school**

We will continue to have appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in place in school and across the school network.

IT staff are available to advise staff and are continuing to monitor the systems daily. Any concerns will be passed on to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) as per our Child Protection and Safeguarding policy aviable on the school website..

All pupils will be set the task of completing the OSA Online Safety Certificate (undertaken annually) during the school closure to heighten awareness and understanding of online safety issues. Completion can be monitored remotely.

**Outside school**

Where staff are interacting with children online, they will continue to follow our existing IT acceptable use policy. In the policy, clear guidelines are set out for the safe use of school IT equipment and the school network in relation to communicating with pupils and appropriate use of language.

As per the policy, staff are prohibited from using social networking sites or apps to communicate with pupils.

All staff will use our VLE Firefly to communicate work to pupils. Tasks will be monitored by line managers and senior leaders.

Greenbank High School is not offering remote teaching to pupils at this moment in time due to concerns about safeguarding of staff in this situation.

Any pupils who are included on the school’s vulnerable list will be contacted twice weekly by learning mentors. Mentors have had training in relation to communication with vulnerable pupils and their parents / carers.

Staff will continue to be alert to signs that a child may be at risk of harm online, and act on any concerns immediately, following our reporting procedures as set out in this addendum.

Children know how to report any concerns they have back to our school via safeguardingteam@greenbankhigh.co.uk and the red button on the VLE which are monitored daily. Pupils have already been signposted to other sources of support such as Kooth through assemblies and PSHE lessons.

**Working with parents and carers**

We will make sure parents and carers:

* Are aware of the potential risks to children online and the importance of staying safe online
* Know what our school is asking children to do online, including what sites they will be using and who they will be interacting with from our school
* Are aware that they should only use reputable online companies or tutors if they wish to supplement the remote teaching and resources our school provides
* Know where else they can go for support to keep their children safe online

Parents have received information about staying safe online via Parentmail on 17th March and 3rd April . This relates to safe use of the internet for their children during the school closure and general advice on well-being in relation to ICT use. Throughout the closure, regular updates will be offered to parents including links to relevant websites / media for further guidance.