**Whitehouse Primary School**

**& Nursery Unit**



COVID-19 SCHOOL CLOSURE ADDENDUM TO THE

USE OF INTERNET & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES POLICY

AT WHITEHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

May 2020

**Introduction**

This document provides an addendum to our Whitehouse Primary School Online Safety Policy during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Contact Details**

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| **Whitehouse Primary School & Nursery Unit - E Safety Team** | | |
| **Role** | **Name** | **Email** |
| Principal | Miss D Blain | [info@whitehouseps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@whitehouseps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk) |
| Governor for E Safety | Mrs L Douglas |  |
| Designated Teacher For Safeguarding & Child Protection – E Safety Officer | Mrs R Watson | [rwatson555@c2kni.net](mailto:rwatson555@c2kni.net) |
| E Safety Team | Mrs S Richmond | srichmond011[@c2kni.net](mailto:hclifford327@c2kni.net) |
| E Safety Team | Mrs J McNevison | Jmcnevison071[@c2kni.net](mailto:cspratt651@c2kni.net) |

**Online Learning:**

The link to Home Learning is now on the front page of the school website and is password protected. Daily planners and resources are added each week for each year group. For those pupils who require additional support differentiated activities are provided via the planners or an additional support file. Our advice to parents is to follow a timetable that is best suited to the needs of their child. Parents are encouraged to check the school website and school social media page regularly for updates.

**Online Safety:**

Any remote contact or online teaching should follow the same principles as set out in the Acceptable Use Policy and Online Safety Policies. (Available on School Website).The school will also ensure any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with safeguarding protocols. Parents are encouraged to re-read the Pupil Acceptable Use in our Use of Internet and Digital Technologies Policy.

In addition to the resources provided by Whitehouse Primary School & Nursery Unit via the school website, there are a growing number of online resources currently being developed which parents and pupils may choose to access. We would like to emphasise the importance of using online resources that are age appropriate and are from a reputable and reliable source.

During this time of home learning, we have decided against using any form of live video conferencing with pupils via such platforms as Zoom. This will be continually reviewed.

**Reporting concerns about Online Safety**

As a school we will continue to follow our safeguarding procedures as outlined in the school’s Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, (this has also been updated to include a Covid 19 addendum) and Use of Internet & Digital Technologies Policy (both policies are available on the school website).

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

**Supporting Children & Parents**

* The school website will be updated monthly with the Online Safety Newsletter and any other useful safety information will be shared with parents and pupils if appropriate.
* Whitehouse Primary School & Nursery Unit will also continue to promote online safety via home learning tasks and school social media page.
* The school office is manned daily Mon – Fri 9am – 2pm for general queries, support and information.
* Teachers may phone parents of pupils in their class to ‘check in’ on days that they are in school on the rota.
* Parents can contact their child’s class teacher via email if necessary.
* The school will share safeguarding messages on its website and social media page.
* The school will continue to promote positive well-being and community via home learning tasks and social media page
* Whitehouse Primary School & Nursery Unit has produced a document of FAQs for parents and guidelines on contacting and emailing staff. Both have been shared on the school website and social media pages.

**Additional support and links**

Pupils, staff and parents/carers can access age appropriate and practical support and advice via a range of national and local services. These can be found on our school website:

 NCA-CEOP: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/)

 Internet Matters: [www.internetmatters.org/](http://www.internetmatters.org/)

 Childnet: [www.childnet.com/blog/keeping-children-happy-and-safe-online-during-covid-19](http://www.childnet.com/blog/keeping-children-happy-and-safe-online-during-covid-19)

 UK Safer Internet Centre: [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

 NSPCC: [www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/)

 Parent Info: <https://parentinfo.org/>

 BBC Own it: [www.bbc.com/ownit](http://www.bbc.com/ownit)

 Childline: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)