



**Baroness Berridge of the Vale of Catmose**

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the School System  
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tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus](http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus)

Baroness Grender  
House of Lords  
London  
SW1A 0PW

21 April 2020

Dear Baroness Grender,

Thank you for contacting me with your query regarding the ownership of the relationship of a vulnerable child between a social worker and a school.

Children's social care continues to have legal responsibilities for the protection and welfare of children regardless of whether a social worker is working from home. Our guidance about schools closures is clear that we expect schools to work with local authorities to monitor the welfare of vulnerable children who are not attending school but the legal responsibility remains with the Local Authority. Specific arrangements will, of course, depend on the circumstances and needs of the child.

I hope this letter has been useful and I will place a copy in the House library.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'ER Berridge'.

**ELIZABETH BERRIDGE**

**PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE**