

# Quick Look

## Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024 Update

The Department for Education (DfE) has published the draft version of their statutory guidance [Keeping children safe in education 2024](#), also known as KCSIE. The changes seen in this draft document reflect the updates made to [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) and are deemed to be technical changes only. Schools and colleges have access to the draft KCSIE prior to its enforcement in September 2024.

The DfE has only made technical changes to the 2024 KCSIE. Between March 2024 and June 2024, the DfE consulted with schools, colleges and other professionals to gather feedback on safeguarding. This feedback will inform future reviews of KCSIE and shape long-term policies for safeguarding children.

It must be noted that at the time of writing, the changes listed below are from the draft version of the 2024 KCSIE. Although it is not expected, some changes may be made before the final draft is published for enforcement on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. Until that time, KCSIE 2023 is still in force.

This Quick Look summarises the key changes and updates made to KCSIE 2024.

### How is the KCSIE document structured?

KCSIE is comprised of 5 Parts followed by Annexes A-F:

| Parts   | Annexes  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Safeguarding information for <b>all</b> staff</li><li>2. The management of safeguarding</li><li>3. Safer recruitment</li><li>4. Safeguarding concerns or allegations made about staff, including supply teachers, volunteers and contractors</li><li>5. Child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Safeguarding information for school and college staff</li><li>B. Further information</li><li>C. Role of the designated safeguarding lead</li><li>D. Host families - homestay during exchange visits</li><li>E. Statutory guidance - Regulated activity (children)<br/>- Supervision of activity with children which is regulated activity when unsupervised</li><li>f. Table of substantive changes from September 2023</li></ol> |

### What updates have been made to each section?

#### Part one updates: Safeguarding information for all staff

##### Page 7

Definition of 'safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children' – amended to reflect the updated [Working together to safeguard children 2023](#). It is defined as:

- > providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge;
- > protecting children from maltreatment, whether that is within or outside the home, including online;
- > preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development;
- > ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- > taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

## Paragraph 18

'Early help' – amended to reflect revised [Working together to safeguard children](#) guidance. This now recognises that children who have experienced multiple suspensions and are at risk of being permanently excluded might benefit from early help intervention.

## Paragraph 19

'Abuse and Neglect' – heading amended to include 'exploitation' (which also applies throughout the document as applicable). The indicators now include that children are victims of abuse when they are witnesses to domestic abuse.

## Paragraph 24

'Indicators of Abuse and Neglect' – additional text included 'including where they see, hear, or experience its effects' when referring to domestic violence.

## Paragraph 29

'Safeguarding Issues' – 'deliberately missing education' amended to reflect revised definition of 'unexplainable and or persistent absences from education'. This acknowledges that children may not be at fault when absent.

## Part two updates: The management of safeguarding

### Paragraph 92

[Data Protection Act 2018](#) and UK GDPR – paragraph included to comply with DPA/UKGDPR requirements.

### Paragraph 171

'Alternative Provision' – text added to clarify school remains responsible for the pupils they place in alternative provision.

### Paragraph 204

Links added to NSPCC advice on protecting children with SEN, deaf/disabled children and young people to acknowledge that these children require extra support and attention.

### Paragraphs 205 to 209

'Children who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or questioning their gender' – disclaimer added, and additional text includes further clarification to comply with [Gender Questioning Children draft guidance](#) terminology.

## Part five updates: Child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment

### Paragraph 497

'Early help' – text amended to reflect [Working together to safeguard children 2023](#).

## Annex B Updates: Further information

### Page 148

'Children and the court system' – two separate age-appropriate guides (5-11 years and 12-17 years) for schools to support children in the court system now included.

### Page 156

'Preventing radicalisation' – disclaimer added, and minimal changes to clarify schools' duties in relation to Prevent which should be included as part of the school's safeguarding approach.

## Annex C updates: Role of the designated safeguarding lead

### Page 170

'Holding and sharing information' – further guidance added regarding the rationale for making decisions and the need for detailed, accurate and secure written records of all concerns raised and decisions made.

## How can we prepare for KCSIE 2024 on 1 September?

- > Review your policies and practices to make sure they align with the updated requirements in [KCSIE 2024](#) ready for when they become statutory on 1<sup>st</sup> September.
- > Ensure that your governing body is informed and aware of the updates. Ask both school governors and school leaders to read the whole guidance.
- > Consider safeguarding and child protection training needs for your setting for September to ensure **all** staff and governors are informed and aware of 2024 requirements.
- > Ensure any updated information is accessible to all.

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