

Changes to Keeping Children Safe in Education for 2025

Please note: some sections in KCSIE 2025 are likely to be updated again in September 2025. This is because over the summer the DfE expects to publish revised guidance on:

- Relationships, sex and health education
- Gender questioning children

If this happens, the following sections will be updated with signposts to the revised guidance:

- Opportunities to teach safeguarding (from paragraph 128)
- Children who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or gender questioning (from paragraph 204)

Main changes to be aware of

An updated definition of the 'content' area of risk for online safety:

➤ The 'content' risks related to online safety now include:

- Misinformation
- Disinformation (including fake news)
- Conspiracy theories

More guidance around filtering and monitoring, and AI

- The information around the DfE's [filtering and monitoring standards](#) has been updated to include a link to the 'plan technology for your school service', which you can use to self-assess your school against the standards, and receive personalised recommendations on how to meet them
- There's also a new link to the [DfE's generative AI: product safety expectations](#) which covers:
 - How to use generative AI safely
 - How filtering and monitoring requirements apply to the use of generative AI in education

There is more detail around safeguarding related to alternative provision (AP)

- This reflects existing guidance around AP, and states that schools should obtain written information from the AP:
 - That appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out on anyone working at the AP

- About any changes that might put the child at risk, e.g. staff changes, so the school can make sure appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out

➤ This section now also includes that:

- Schools should always know where a child is based during school hours. This includes maintaining records of the address of the AP and any sub-contracted provision or satellite sites the child might attend
- Schools should regularly review AP placements, at least half-termly, in order to provide assurance that:
 - The child is regularly attending
 - The placement continues to be safe and meets the child's needs
- Where safeguarding concerns arise, the placement should be immediately reviewed and terminated, if necessary, unless or until those concerns have been satisfactorily addressed

Updated wording around 'Working together to improve school attendance'

➤ This is to highlight that the guidance is statutory and set out how schools must work with local authority (LA) children's services where absence indicates a safeguarding concern

Updated information on the role of the virtual school head (VSH)

➤ VSHs now have a non-statutory responsibility to promote the educational achievement of children in kinship care

Removal of 'autism spectrum disorder' as a term

➤ KCSIE 2025 now uses the term 'autism', to align with the SEND Code of Practice

Sources

➤ [Keeping Children Safe in Education, GOV.UK – Department for Education](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2)
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