KCSIE 2025 is published

As you'll be aware, the draft updated version of KCSIE was published yesterday. Please remember things could change further.

KEY KCSIE DIFFERENCES

KCSIE 2025 includes only technical changes. Future versions are expected to reflect upcoming legislation such as the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, further learnings from inquiries like the Casey Audit, and the Violence Against Women and Girls strategy.

Specific Changes by Section:

Part Two: The Management of Safeguarding

- Paragraph 128 (Page 36): A note has been added indicating that revised guidance on Relationships, Sex, and Health Education is anticipated for publication in summer and will be signposted in the September 2025 version of the guidance.

- Paragraph 135 (Page 38): The content has been updated to explicitly clarify that misinformation, disinformation, and conspiracy theories are considered safeguarding harms.

- Paragraph 142 (Page 40): A link has been added to the Department for Education's (DfE) 'plan technology for your school service'. This service allows schools to self-assess against filtering and monitoring standards and receive tailored recommendations.

- Paragraph 143 (Page 41): A link to DfE guidance on the use of generative AI in education has been included at the end of the filtering and monitoring section, intended to support schools and colleges in this area.

- Paragraph 144 (Page 41): The wording in the cybersecurity standards advice has been amended to clarify that these standards were developed to help schools enhance their cyber resilience.

- Paragraphs 169-170 (Page 47): Information has been added to clarify and reflect existing Alternative Provision (AP) Guidance.

- Paragraph 177 (Page 49): The text has been updated to confirm that ‘working together to safeguard attendance’ is now ‘statutory’ guidance.

- Paragraph 199 (Page 54): This paragraph has been amended to clarify that the role of Virtual School Heads has been extended to include the responsibility for promoting the educational achievement of children in kinship care.

- Paragraph 204 (Page 56): A note has been added stating that revised guidance on gender questioning children is expected to be published in summer and will be signposted in the September 2025 version.

- Paragraph 205 (Page 56): The terms ‘spectrum’ and ‘disorder’ have been removed to align with the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) code of practice.

Part Three: Safer Recruitment

- Paragraph 260 (Page 74): The reference to the Teaching Regulation Agency’s (TRA) Employer Access Service has been removed and replaced with a new link to the relevant GOV.UK page.

- Paragraph 266 (Page 75): Similar to paragraph 260, references to the TRA’s Employer Access Service have been removed and replaced with a new link to the GOV.UK page for checking teacher records.

- Paragraph 319 (Page 85): The reference to Employer Secure Access has been removed and replaced with a direct link to GOV.UK for Section 128 (S128) checks.

- Paragraph 331 (Page 87): Information has been added to clarify and reflect existing Alternative Provision (AP) Guidance.

Part Four: Safeguarding Concerns or Allegations Made About Staff, Including Supply Teachers, Volunteers and Contractors

- Paragraph 422 (Page 106): This paragraph has been amended to correct the title of the Information Commissioner’s employment practice guidance.

Part Five: Child-on-Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment

- Paragraph 545 (Page 140): A link has been added to the Lucy Faithfull Foundation's 'Shore Space', which provides a confidential chat service for young people concerned about their own or others' sexual thoughts and behaviors.

Annexes A, B, C, D, and E

- Annex B – Page 157: A header has been removed.

- Annex B – Page 163: A link has been added to the CSA Centre's Resources for education settings.

- Annex B – Page 164: A link has been added to the Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation resource from The Children's Society.

Sections with No Changes:

- The "Summary" and "About the guidance" sections remain unchanged.

- "Part One: Safeguarding information for all staff" also shows no changes.

- Annexes A, C, D, and E do not list any substantive changes in the provided table