

Key Changes Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020

The New Statutory Guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education will come into force on 1 September 2020 and at that point KCSIE 2019 will be withdrawn. Until then schools and colleges must continue to use KCSIE 2019.

Link to Guidance:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892394/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2020.pdf;

Table of substantive changes from KSCIE September 2019 is included in Annex H – Page 117

Summary of key Changes

Some of the keys changes include:

- A new paragraph included about Coronavirus plus supporting guidance
- New responsibilities have been granted to the role of DSL
- More guidance provided to allow schools to ensure that any allegations that are made against a supply teacher are handled accordingly
- Online learning and ensuring that safety measures are put in place to keep children safe whilst working from home online
- More emphasis made on protecting children's mental welfare as part of the safeguarding

Key changes in part 1: Safeguarding Information for all Staff

- The proposal in the draft for some staff to have a shortened read of the guidance has been dropped- the same requirements as 2019 apply (part 1 and Annex A)
- There is rewording of the guidance (para 21) around extra-familial harm, removing the links to contextual safeguarding but emphasising that "children may be vulnerable to multiple harms including (but not limited to) sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, and serious youth violence." Para 28 goes on to add emphasis on Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation
- Childrens Mental Health is added to the guidance, ensuring that staff should consider when this might become a safeguarding concern.
- Concerns about staff are extended to include supply staff, reflecting changes in part 4 that schools hold responsibility to fully explore concerns about supply staff
- Where a head teacher is also the sole proprietor of an independent school it is now mandatory to report to the LADO

Part 2: The Management of Safeguarding

- The requirement for Education Safeguarding Practitioners to liaise with the three safeguarding partners in line with Working Together 2018.
- There is a link to the NSPCC's guidance on when to call the police to ensure calls are appropriate and timely
- Updated clarification regards GDPR and the new data Protection toolkit link is added
- Governing bodies and Proprietors should ensure appropriate filters and monitoring is in place to keep children safe online. Additional information added for keeping children safe at school and at home is provided in Annex C.
- Reference to the compulsory teaching of RSHE from September 2020 and the safeguarding implications of this. There is flexibility for schools to decide how they discharge these duties within the first year of compulsory teaching and are able to take a phased approach when introducing subjects.
- The emphasis has shifted "allegations" against persons in a position of trust to thinking about "safeguarding concerns and allegations". Settings should have an approach that recognises concerns and may be apparent before someone makes an allegation. It emphasises transferrable risk and the need to report historical allegations as well as for those individuals no longer teaching
- Highlights the particular vulnerability of children who have a social worker being vulnerable based on the research on 'what works in education for children'
- The guidance notes (para 113) "Schools and colleges have an important role to play in supporting the mental health and well being of their pupils" and asks that settings have in place clear systems and processes to identify these needs, and to consider when they become a safeguarding concern. DSLs may wish to familiarise themselves with the guidance on Mental health & behaviour in schools, particularly Chapter 4, which highlights developing local partnerships and ensuring DSL's know how to access appropriate training for themselves and staff in the local area.
- DfE highlight funding for specific programmes which train senior mental health lead and the implementation of the link Programme.

Part 3: Safer Recruitment

- Reference to statutory Guidance on private fostering has been added
- No other changes

Part 4: Allegations of Abuse made against Teachers, another staff including supply Teachers and Volunteers

- The responsibility to manage allegations about supply teachers is made clear, so they still ensure allegations are dealt with appropriately when they are not the employer. Schools cannot simply cease to use this teacher. Processes should be developed to

manage this akin to the disciplinary procedure and the school should advise supply agencies of its process for managing allegations

- A fourth bullet point has been added to the criteria for the LADO so schools must work with other agencies to investigate when who has worked at the school has **“behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children”**
- Further guidance on how schools and colleges should handle allegations against supply staff, has been added.

Part 5: Child on Child sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment

- No changes

Annex A: Further Information

- The potential for children to be exploited when missing from education is further emphasised. All staff must be aware of the unauthorised absence and children missing from education procedures for their school
- Child criminal exploitation is defined and included, alongside some of the indicators. Child sexual exploitation is seen within the remit of child exploitation. A link to child sexual exploitation; guide for practitioners
- Wording around county lines has been improved and extra information added
- Revision and improvement of the wording around Domestic Abuse. The impact of on children who are exposed to Domestic abuse or suffer it in their own relationships has been made clear.
- Reference to Operation Encompass and the National Domestic Abuse Helpline has been added with further reference to the NSPCC, Refuge and SafeLives
- Honour Based Violence has been better termed Honour Based Abuse to recognise non-violent forms of abuse
- A clear definition of terrorism has been added, clarification of radicalisation and link to the Chanel guidance is also added. There are further links to Prevent elearning and additional guidance.
- Additional updates and clarification on ‘upskirting’ The Voyeurism (Offences) Act came into force on 12 April 2019 and has now been referenced
- Peer on peer abuse is amended to Peer on peer / child on child abuse, recognising that sometimes this abuse is not between peers

Annex B

- DSL’s should work closely with senior mental health Leads
- Training should provide designated Safeguarding practitioners with a good understanding of their own role, and the processes, procedures and responsibilities of other agencies, particularly children social care. A list of specific areas of essential understanding is included.

- DSLs should help promote educational outcomes by working closely with their teachers and sharing information about their welfare, safeguarding and child protection concerns
- The transfer of child protection files rules applies to mid-year transfers
- Safeguarding supervision for DSL's has not been added to the Draft guidance but is a requirement in the Ofsted Inspection Framework and Working together 2018.

Annex C

- The Section on Online safety has been improved and additional links added
- No other Changes

No other changes to any other sections

