

Welcome to the July 2025 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Schools

Department for Education (DfE) [Keeping Children Safe in Education \(KCSiE\)](#)

[Keeping children safe in education 2025](#)

Published 1st July 2025, KCSiE introduces limited technical changes, the full version of KCSiE 2025 will come into force on 1st September 2025, focusing on safeguarding practices in educational settings.

Some Key changes and updates

1. **Updated Safeguarding Harms:** Updated guidance will include a revised list of online safeguarding harms encompassing:

- misinformation
- disinformation,
- conspiracy theories

This reflects the growing concern of the impact of harmful online content on children.

2. **Statutory Attendance Guidance:** [Working Together to Improve School Attendance](#) guidance now statutory, emphasizing the importance of maintaining accurate attendance records and sharing them with the DfE.

3. **Future Revisions:** The DfE indicates future versions of KCSiE will reflect ongoing legislative developments, including:

- The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill
- Strategies to address violence against women and girls.

This suggests a commitment to continuously improving safeguarding practices in schools.

Read the guidance [here](#) in full.

Schools will need to prepare for these changes and ensure compliance with the updated requirements.

Staff Training

Check how the UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS) [Online Safety Audit Tool](#) helps mentors of trainee teachers and newly qualified teachers to induct mentees and provide ongoing support, development and monitoring.

Consider including a Cyber Security session for your next 'Staff Inset'

The government's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) has produced free cyber security [training](#) resources to raise awareness for staff.

Resources include a scripted presentation pack; self learn video and PowerPoint.

Review a range of practical resources from the NCSC to help improve cyber security including:

[Cyber Security training for school staff](#) to help improve your school's cyber resilience.

Don't forget! Helpline for staff solely dedicated to supporting the children's workforce:

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline (POSH):
[Website](#) Tel: 0344 381 4772

Latest update from Ofcom

From 25th July 2025, all sites and apps that allow pornography will need to have [strong age checks](#) in place, to make sure children can't access it or other harmful content.

Why?

- 8% cent of children aged 8-14 in the UK visited an online porn site or app in a month, **including** 3% of 8-9-year-olds.
- Boys aged 13-14 were mostly likely to visit a porn service.
- Ofcom's research also shows the vast majority of adults (80%) support age checks on online pornographic sites as a means of protecting children.

How Ofcom will enforce the rules

- Ofcom expects sites and apps to engage with them and comply with their duties under the new rules.
- Ofcom will be able to impose fines of up to £18m or 10% of their qualifying worldwide revenue (whichever is greater).
- In most serious cases, Ofcom can ask a court to impose sanctions on third parties, such as internet providers.

Read in full [here](#)



Cyber Security

Scomis takes this opportunity to remind schools of the need to raise awareness of key **cyber threats with all members of staff**. Follow advice from the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC):

1. Improve your email security, watch the video [Take your email security to another level](#)
2. Combine three random words to create a password consider the use of ['three random words'](#)
3. Learn how to turn on two-step verification (2SV) [NCSC 2SV guidance](#)
4. Do not ignore reminders to update devices [Install the latest software and app updates](#)
5. Use Password Managers to safely store passwords: [NCSC guidance on use of browsers and apps](#)
6. Don't risk losing important data including photos! [NCSC guidance on backing up data](#)

Check the **Top Tips for staying safe** from the NCSC [here](#)

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