



## Welcome to the December 2025 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Schools

### Is your school's data safe?

With the Christmas break almost upon us consider the following questions:

- How safe is your school's data?
- Does your school have an up to date *Data Security Policy*?
- Does your Data Security Policy include provisions for homeworking/anytime/anywhere/access?
- Would you know if your school experienced (or has experienced) a Data Security Incident?
- How resilient is your school's IT network?
- Is your school's network protected from internal and external threats?
- What would you do if a key member of staff is unavailable (Data Manager/Network Manager) at the start of next term?

Consider the following questions:

Could you access student data, safely and securely in an emergency?

Have you reviewed your Business Continuity/Emergency and Contingency Plans recently?

Review the DfE's [Emergency Planning and Response](#) Guidance. Contents includes advice on:

- making an emergency plan
- prioritising education
- severe weather

And more!

Unsure of how to write a Contingency Plan?

[Review 40 Contingency Plans from the DfE](#)

Contact [Scomis](#) for impartial and objective advice on:

Infrastructure Services  
Network Solutions and Services  
Remote Back-up

### Cyber Security Standards for 2030

#### Important!

**Cyber Security for Schools and Colleges Core standards**

All schools and colleges should be [working towards meeting 6 core standards](#) by 2030:

[broadband internet](#) connection type, connection speed, resilience and safeguarding.

[wireless network](#) wireless network performance, coverage, management and security.

[network switching](#) switch performance, management, security and resilience.

[digital leadership and governance](#) roles and responsibilities

[filtering and monitoring](#) appropriate filtering and monitoring

[cyber security](#) reduce risks related to a cyber incident by preventing access to potentially malicious sites or resources

You can use [Plan technology for your school – GOV.UK](#) to help you plan and use digital technology effectively.

### Helpline dedicated to children's workforce

Don't forget! The Professionals Online Safety Helpline (POSH). Review their video:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/professionals-online-safety-helpline> Tel: 0344 381 4772

### Catch up on South West Grid for Learning's 25 years

Did you know that the South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) was instrumental in the implementation of Broadband in schools across the South West! Watch the [event](#) celebrating SWGfL's achievements in the last 25 years!



Find out more about SWGfL [here](#)

Including response to [Ofcom's latest research on the Online Safety Act](#)

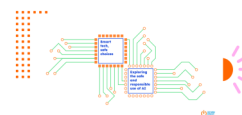
Subscribe to SWGfL's monthly newsletter and get the latest news, content and tips about Online Safety, Security and Education Technology [here](#)

### Save the date! Safer Internet Day 2026

Safer Internet Day 2026 will take place on the **10<sup>th</sup> of February 2026**, with celebrations and learning based around the theme:

**'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.**

Register as a Supporter now, access free resources for all ages, top tips for parents, carers and young people, quizzes and more [here](#)



### Childnet's STAR Toolkit for SEND

#### What is it?

The STAR Toolkit is a **free** and adaptable online safety learning resource for use with young people with special educational needs in Key Stage 3 or 4.

The Toolkit equips, enables and empowers educators with the knowledge they need to support young people who have special educational needs when they are online.

Topics include cyberbullying, trustworthiness, inappropriate online content and 'strangers'.

### Further Support

#### Looking for further support?

Children—[call Childline 0800 1111](#)

Older children [The Mix](#) offers free and practical advice. Essential support for under 25s.

For more information contact **Scomis**:

E: [scomis@devon.gov.uk](mailto:scomis@devon.gov.uk)

T: [01392 385300](tel:01392385300)

**SCOMIS**  
Your ICT Partner