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SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION UPDATE

ISSUE: 5 **Monday 22nd August 2022**

We hope you have enjoyed the summer break and are looking forward to the Autumn term. We have included some information to help you with your preparation for the new academic year in this term's Safeguarding and Child Protection update. We hope you find it useful, and we appreciate you taking the time to read it in full.

Updated Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidance

This guidance sets out the legal duties all staff in education must follow to safeguard and promote the welfare of children under the age of 18 in schools and colleges. Below you will find the drafted changes that will be included in the new guidance, which will come into force on 1st September 2022.

All of our staff are legally required to read and become familiar with at least Part One of the Keeping Children Safe in Education (from 1 September 2022) guidance to work with our agencies on supply.

Once the updated guidance has been officially published, we will send you an email with a link to Part One of the new document.

Once published, the 2022 guidance will also be available on the .Gov website. You can access this (post-1st September 2022) by clicking the link below:

Keeping Children Safe in Education (from September 2022)

Key changes since September 2021:

Paragraph number	Change
Part one: Safeguarding for all staff	
Paragraph 19 Disclosure	New paragraph setting out that children may not feel ready or know how to tell someone they are being abused.
Paragraph 43 Domestic abuse	Domestic abuse has been added to the list of safeguarding issues that all staff should be aware of. The guidance makes it clear that domestic abuse: • can be psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional, and • can have an impact on children through seeing, hearing or experiencing the effects of domestic abuse and/or experiencing it through their own intimate relationships.

Key changes since September 2021 continued:

Part two: The management of safeguarding	
Paragraph 81 Training for governors and trustees	New content emphasises that governors and trustees should receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training at induction, and then at regular intervals to provide them with the knowledge to ensure their school's safeguarding policies and procedures are effective.
Paragraph 83-85 Human Rights legislation	The updated guidance makes it clear that being subjected to harassment, violence and/or abuse may breach children's rights, as set out in the Human Rights Act.
Paragraph 86-90 Equality legislation	The guidance sets out the significance of the Equality Act 2010 to school safeguarding, including that schools and colleges: • must not unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their protected characteristics • must consider how they are supporting pupils with protected characteristics, and • must take positive action, where proportionate, to deal with the disadvantages these pupils face. For example, by making reasonable adjustments for disabled children and supporting girls if there is evidence they are being disproportionately subjected to sexual violence or harassment.
Paragraph 91-93 Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)	In line with PSED, staff need to be conscious that pupils with protected characteristics may be more at risk of harm and integrate this into safeguarding policies and procedures.
Paragraph 139 Online safety	Schools and colleges should use communications with parents and carers to reinforce the importance of children being safe online. Schools should share information with parents/carers about: • what systems they have in place to filter and monitor online use • what they are asking children to do online, including the sites they will asked to access, and • who from the school or college (if anyone) their child is going to be interacting with online.
Paragraph 140 Online safety - filters	Additions to the guidance state that governing bodies and proprietors should regularly review the effectiveness of school filters and monitoring systems. They should ensure that the leadership team and relevant staff are: • aware of and understand the systems in place • manage them effectively, and • know how to escalate concerns when identified.
Paragraph 202-204 LGBTQ+ pupils	Guidance now emphasises the importance of providing LGBTQ+ children with a safe space for them to speak out or share their concerns with members of staff.
Part three: Safer recruitment	
Paragraph 220 Staff checks	Information has been added to highlight that schools should consider online searches as part of their due diligence checks on shortlisted candidates.
Part four: Allegations made against/concerns raised in relation to teachers	
Paragraph 432-434 Low level concerns	The school's Low Level Concerns Policy should contain a clear procedure for confidentially sharing concerns. The school can decide whether concerns are initially shared with the Designated Safeguarding Lead(DSL)/nominated person or directly with the headteacher/principal. **Guidance also clarifies that low level concerns which are shared about supply staff and contractors should be notified to their employers; and schools and colleges should consult with their LADO (local authority designated officer) if unsure whether low-level concerns shared about a member of staff meet the harm threshold.**
Part five: Child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment This section has been expanded to incorporate guidance previously covered in the DfE's Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges advice. It also provides new information, emphasising:	

Key changes since September 2021 continued:

Paragraph 468	The importance of explaining to children that the law is in place to protect rather than criminalise them.
Paragraph 482	The importance of understanding intra-familial harms, and any necessary support for siblings following incidents.
Paragraph 492	The need for schools and colleges to be part of discussions with statutory safeguarding partners.
Annexes	**Annex B**, which provides additional information about specific forms of abuse and safeguarding issues, has been updated to move most of the content on peer-on-peer/child-on-child abuse and sexual violence and harassment into the main body of the guidance.
	Annex C, which looks at the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), now includes much of the detail previously in Part two.
	Annex F sets out substantive changes made by the new guidance.

Training

It's important to keep your training record with us up-to-date. If you have completed any recent Safeguarding or Child Protection training via schools, voluntary roles or other agencies, please email copies of your certificates to your consultant.

The following free training courses are also available:

PREVENT training

This is a free training course offered by the Government to help schools and staff protect young people at risk of radicalisation. At the end of the course, you will be provided with a certificate of completion, which you should forward to your consultant to be added to your training record.

Click this link to access the free PREVENT training:

www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk

Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidance (via EduCompli)

This course can be completed on a web browser or via the EduCompli app on your mobile phone. We would recommend this course if you have not undertaken a safeguarding course within the previous 12 months, but anyone who would like to refresh their knowledge can complete it.

Please contact your consultant should you wish to complete this training. To enrol you, your consultant will need to provide EduCompli with your name and email address – please see our Privacy Policy for more details on how we share your information.

If you have identified any additional training requirements during the last academic year, please contact your consultant who will endeavor to source a suitable resource to support your professional development.

Child online protection

The Online Safety Commission from Government has produced a document 'Our recommendations for making the online world safer for children'.

This document issues the following advice for parents and schools:

'We understand that these issues are challenging and complex. However, our key advice for parents and teachers is simple – start the conversation. The overriding message we heard from children is that adults should talk early and talk often. Children told us they want adults to create a safe, judgment free space for them to talk about these issues, both at home and in school. Children also want to be able to trust adults to help them if something goes wrong.

1. Have proactive conversations early and often, ideally when a child is given their first device or opens their own social media account – whichever comes first. Use resources like our guide for parents 'The things I wish my parents had known' and the National Crime Agency's (NCA) #AskTheAwkward project.
2. Take time to learn about emerging technologies, trends and risks online, ask questions and allow children to be the experts.
3. Be ready to step in and support if something goes wrong and know where to go for high-quality information and support including safeguarding procedures.'

For further information regarding teaching online safety within schools, please refer to 'Teaching Online Safety in Schools' or the NSPCC website – Keeping Children Safe Online.

Your data and privacy

Protecting your data is important to us. You can find out more about how we comply with the legislation in our Privacy Policy and Data Retention Policy, which you can view on our websites.

Please note that some of the resources detailed in this bulletin are from third party providers and are not part of The Edwin Group (Vision for Education/ABC Teachers/ Smart Teachers/Edwin Education) and should be used at your own discretion.