

1 Throughout the Document

Key changes

- Terminology updated throughout.
- AI-generated deepfakes, self-generated intimate images, misogyny, modern slavery and racism now explicitly named.
- EYFS cited alongside KCSIE.
- Annex A removed; all staff must now read Part One in full.

Recommendations

- Audit policies and training for outdated language before September.
- Ensure EYFS is read alongside KCSIE where relevant.
- Confirm Part One is used with all staff and volunteers regardless of contact level.

2 Safer Recruitment

Key changes

- Single Central Record (SCR) template updated.
- Clearer expectations on DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks for volunteers and visitors.
- Trainee teachers now explicitly included in the allegations process.

Recommendations

- Review SCR against updated template.
- Apply DBS guidance carefully to visitors.
- Update policies to include trainee teachers and their supervising body in the allegations process.

3 Child-on-Child Abuse, CCE and CSE

Key changes

- Part Five rewritten around the harmful sexual behaviours (HSB) continuum.
- Zero tolerance to misogyny explicit; early intervention critical to preventing escalation.
- CCE (Child Criminal Exploitation) and CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) definitions aligned with legal language.
- Victims may be criminalised for actions taken under coercion. Serious violence is a safeguarding concern whether child is victim or perpetrator.

Recommendations

- Review policies against the new Part Five framework.
- Train staff to recognise HSB escalation and challenge misogynistic behaviour early.
- DSLs should maintain risk and needs assessments for both victim and alleged perpetrator.
- Report concerns about children carrying weapons as a safeguarding issue.

4 Children Questioning Their Gender

Key changes

- New section absorbs previous non-statutory guidance into KCSIE.
- Schools should respond, not initiate.
- Safeguarding is the primary lens.
- Single-sex spaces must be maintained under existing regulations.
- Parental engagement is the default unless it increases risk.

Recommendations

- Develop a clear policy that sets out steps for social transition requests and avoids rigid rules.
- Engage parents as a priority.
- Maintain confidentiality for disclosures without a request for different treatment, unless a safeguarding risk emerges.

5 Mobile Phones

Key changes

- Schools must be mobile-phone-free by default across the full school day including breaks and lunchtimes.
- Section 36 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026 gives guidance statutory weight from 29 June 2026.
- Ofsted will assess policy implementation at every inspection.

Recommendations

- Review and update your mobile phone policy to meet statutory expectations.
- Set clear expectations for staff, pupils and parents including enforcement and sanctions.
- Document reasonable adjustments for pupils with disability or additional need.

6 Generative AI and Filtering & Monitoring

Key changes

- Generative AI explicitly named as a risk within the 4Cs framework, including chatbot-simulated harmful contact.
- Annual filtering and monitoring reviews now a formal requirement; records must be kept.
- DfE Generative AI in Education policy paper referenced for further guidance.

Recommendations

- Set clear expectations for staff and pupils on approved AI use and how it will be monitored.
- Ensure AI tools meet DfE product safety guidance.
- Schedule and document annual filtering and monitoring reviews across all devices.
- Incorporate into existing online safety risk assessments.