

P&LL Safeguarding Refresher / KCSiE Update

Autumn Term 2025

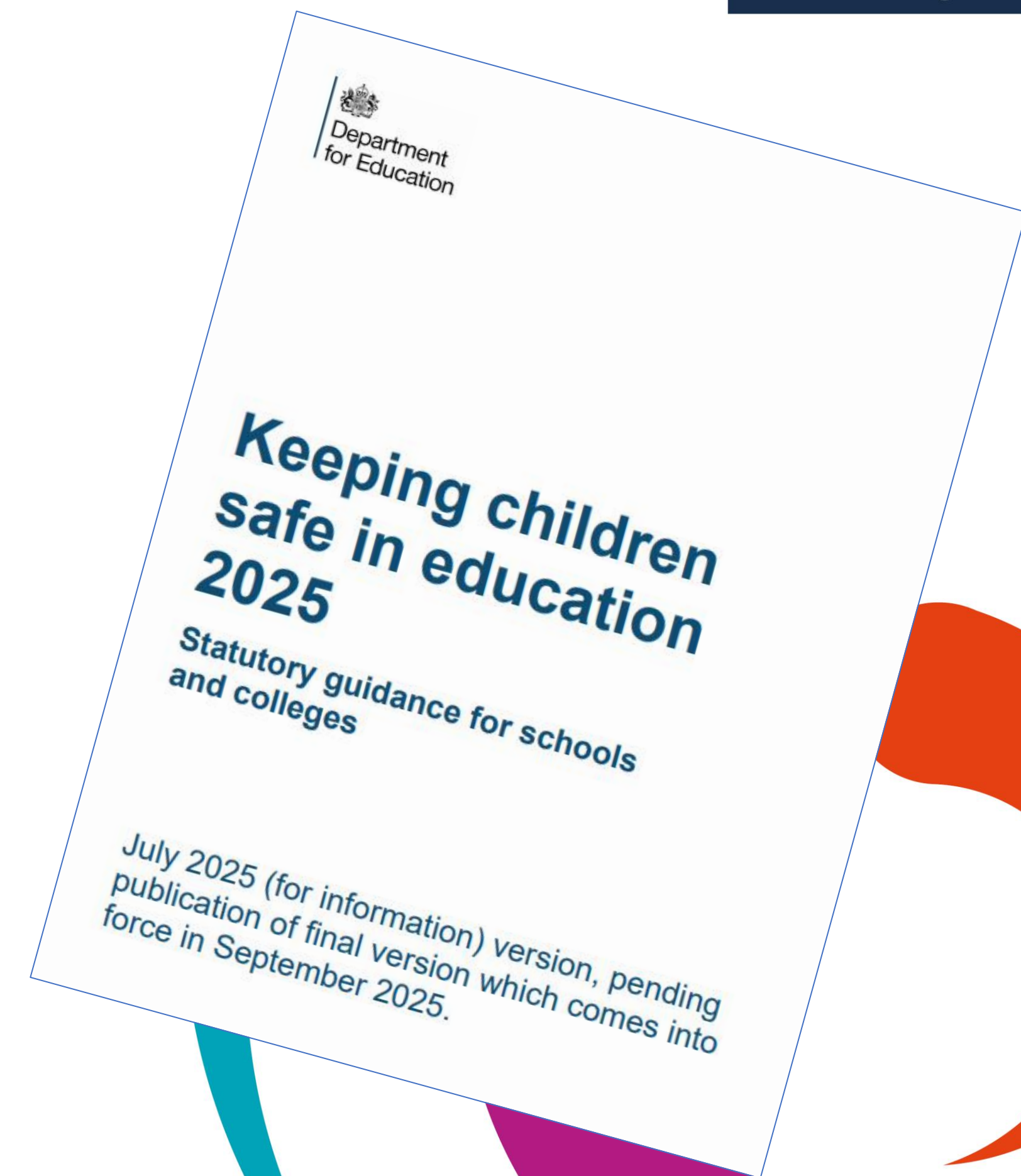
Susie Higgs

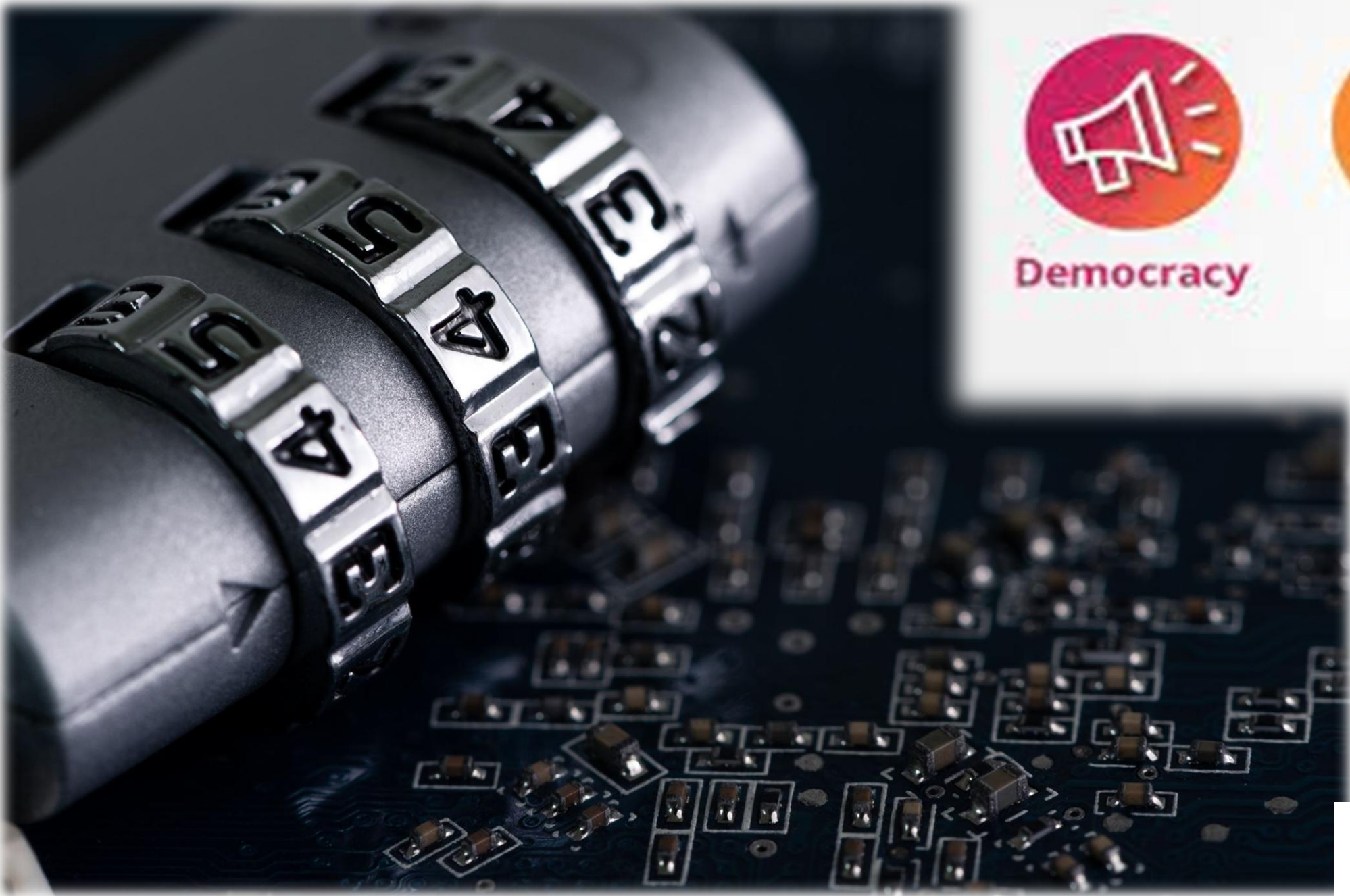
Susie.higgs@hants.gov.uk



Hampshire
County Council

Participation and
Lifelong Learning





Democracy



Rule of Law



Individual Liberty



Respect & Tolerance



Group Agreement

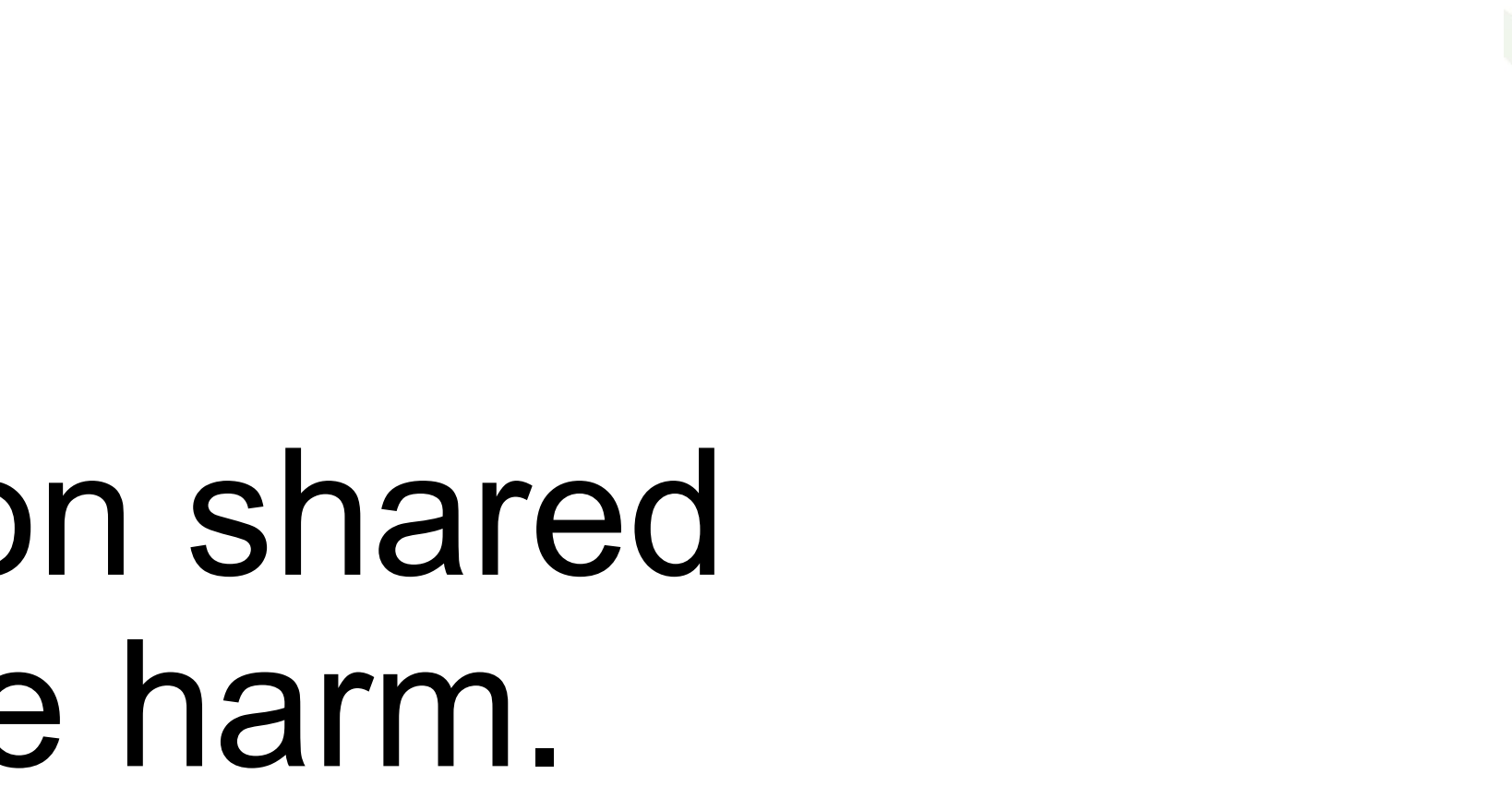


Changes to KCSIE – what's new?

Online Safety - Additional Content Risk

Content Risk: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate, or harmful content, for example: pornography, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, anti-Semitism, radicalisation, extremism, **misinformation, disinformation (including fake news) and conspiracy theories.**

What's the difference between Misinformation & Disinformation?

- **Misinformation** is where false information is shared **by accident** without the intent to cause harm.
 - **Disinformation** is false information shared **deliberately** to mislead and cause harm.
- 

Follow
Anyone else feel that #earthquake in #dubai

7:21 AM · Jan 23, 2023

28 Reply Copy link

Read 8 replies

Follow
Just felt a minor tremor in Dubai Internet city! Anyone else?
#Dubai #earthquake

7:25 AM · Jan 23, 2023

13 Reply Copy link

Read 8 replies

Something very poetic about a king in a golden coach being driven over a load of potholes filled with wet sand because no one in his country has the money to fix the roads properly lmao



How Misinformation Fuelled UK Riots



Sign in

The Guardian

News Opinion Sport Culture Lifestyle

The Guardian view Columnists Cartoons Opinion videos Letters

Opinion

I've caught Covid for the 23rd time despite having had dozens of boosters (I've lost count). Thank heavens for the vaccine

George Monbiot



Literally billions of kids are dying from long Covid every day, but evil anti-vaxxers - e.g. the hated Bridgen - don't care

Thu 11 May 2023 04:02 GMT



Daily Loud
@DailyLoud

Ben Affleck & Jennifer Lopez argue on the red carpet



Examples of Misinformation and Disinformation

Hoaxes

- Fabricated and false news stories (fake news)
- Viral messages
- Deep fakes
- Memes

Hoaxes can be spread very quickly as it's not always easy to spot when something contains false information. People might read something they believe to be true and then go on to share it with others

Scams

- Phishing emails or messages
- Promotion of products or false adverts
- Catfishing
- Competitions or quizzes
- Identity theft / fraud

Challenges

Some can be fun – dancing or those that help raise money for charity.

However, others are risky when they contain dangerous stunts or activities that can cause physical or psychological harm to self or others

Conspiracy Theories

Conspiracy theories are, as the name describes, theories.

They are unsubstantiated explanations for why something has happened, typically based on the assumption that nefarious actions are at the root of what is going on.

Examples:

- the earth is flat
- the moon landings were fake
- birds aren't real; they are drones!

But what about the more dangerous or sinister ones?

Changes in KCSIE – what's new?

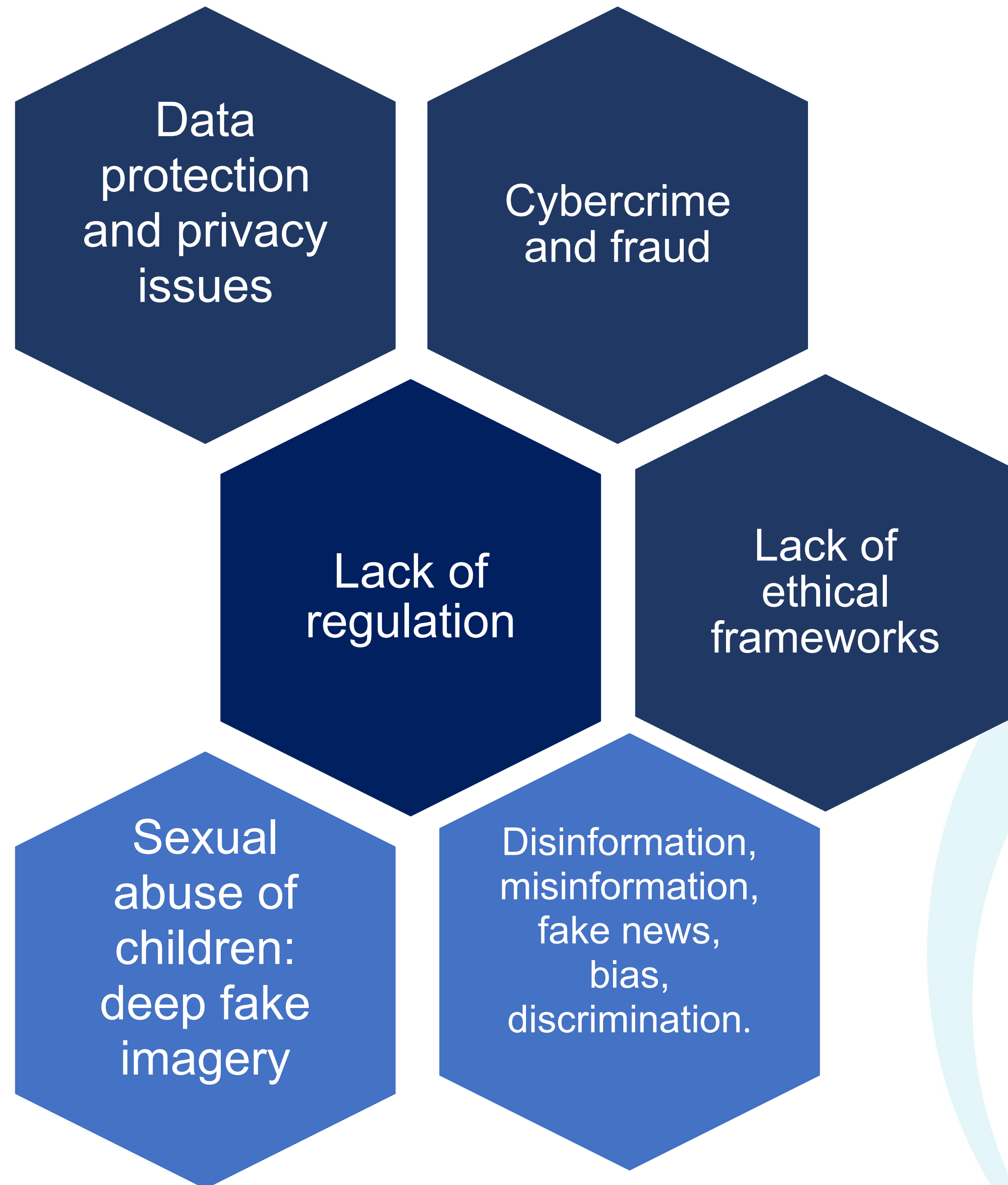
The Department has published [Generative AI: product safety expectations](#) to support schools and colleges to use generative artificial intelligence safely and explains how filtering and monitoring requirements apply to the use of generative AI in education.

There is a general discussion taking place about the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in schools and colleges to ensure appropriate checks and balances are in place to manage risks associated with this technology.



What are the potential benefits of using Artificial Intelligence in education settings?

[How Ofsted looks at AI during inspection and regulation - GOV.UK](#)



Artificial Intelligence: potential harms

AI puts real child sex victims at risk, experts say



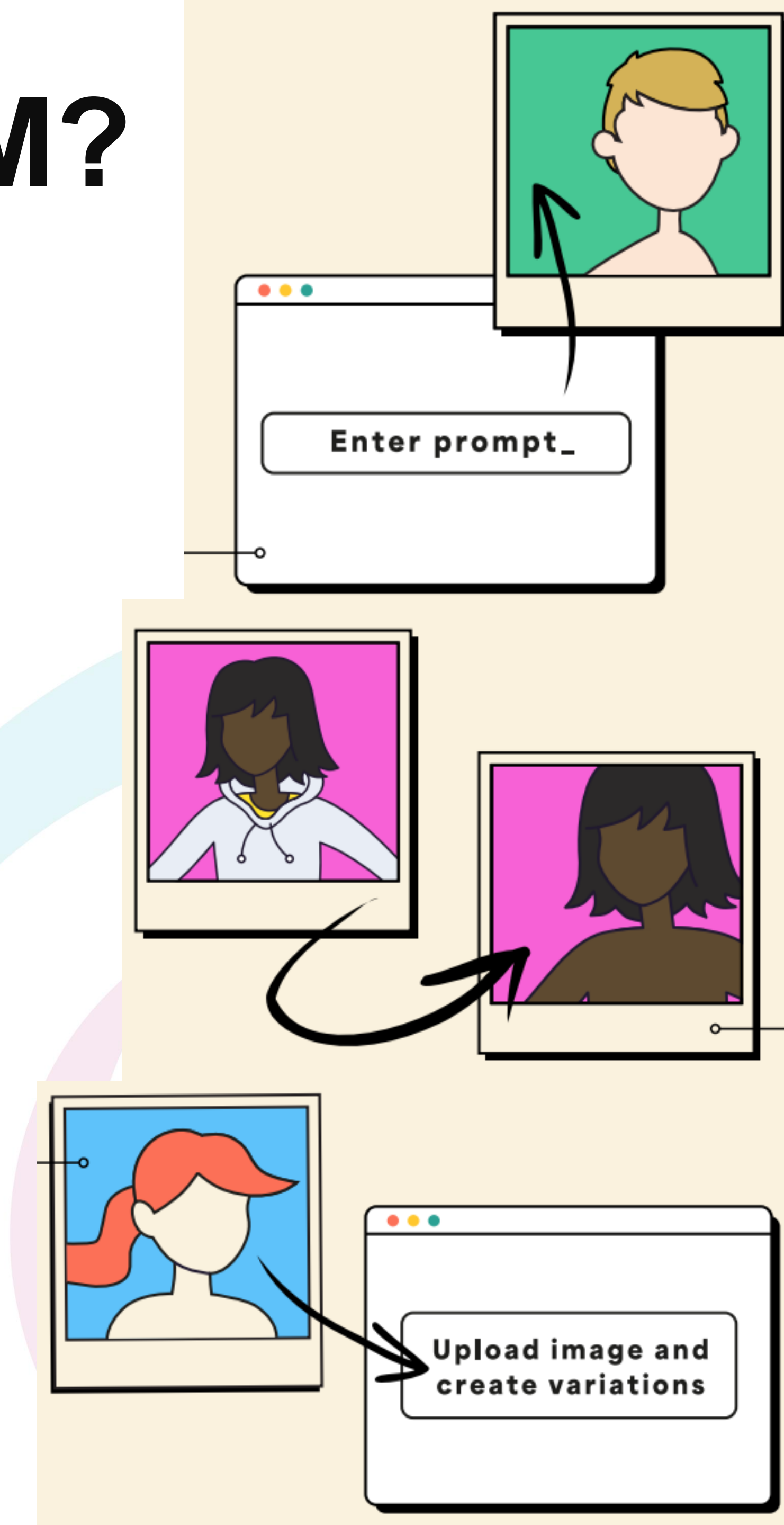
| AI-generated images of children are on the increase and are causing concern, experts say

The BBC published an article on the issue of AI-generated child sexual abuse imagery and how this is impacting the work of police and other agencies in safeguarding children and young people.

[AI puts real child sex victims at risk, IWF experts say - BBC News](#)

How is AI used to create CSAM?

- AI can be used to create highly realistic (often referred to as **photorealistic**), manipulated images and / or videos of a child or young person.
- This can be done by altering existing photos or videos or creating entirely AI-generated sexual abuse content. **‘Nudi’**
- **‘Nudifying’** or **‘undress’** AI tools can be used to digitally remove clothing from images creating sexual abuse imagery of a child or young person.
- Utilising real child sexual imagery to feed AI models to create new image sets and videos.



The Onion Router

The Tor (“the onion router”) network is an anonymity-focused internet system that routes traffic through a global web of volunteer-run servers to obscure users’ identities and locations. By encrypting data in multiple layers – like that of an onion – Tor makes digital activity difficult to trace. Millions of child predators are forming sprawling online communities on the dark web using the TOR network, where criminal behaviour escalates through the sharing of child sexual abuse material, grooming strategies and normalisation of exploitation

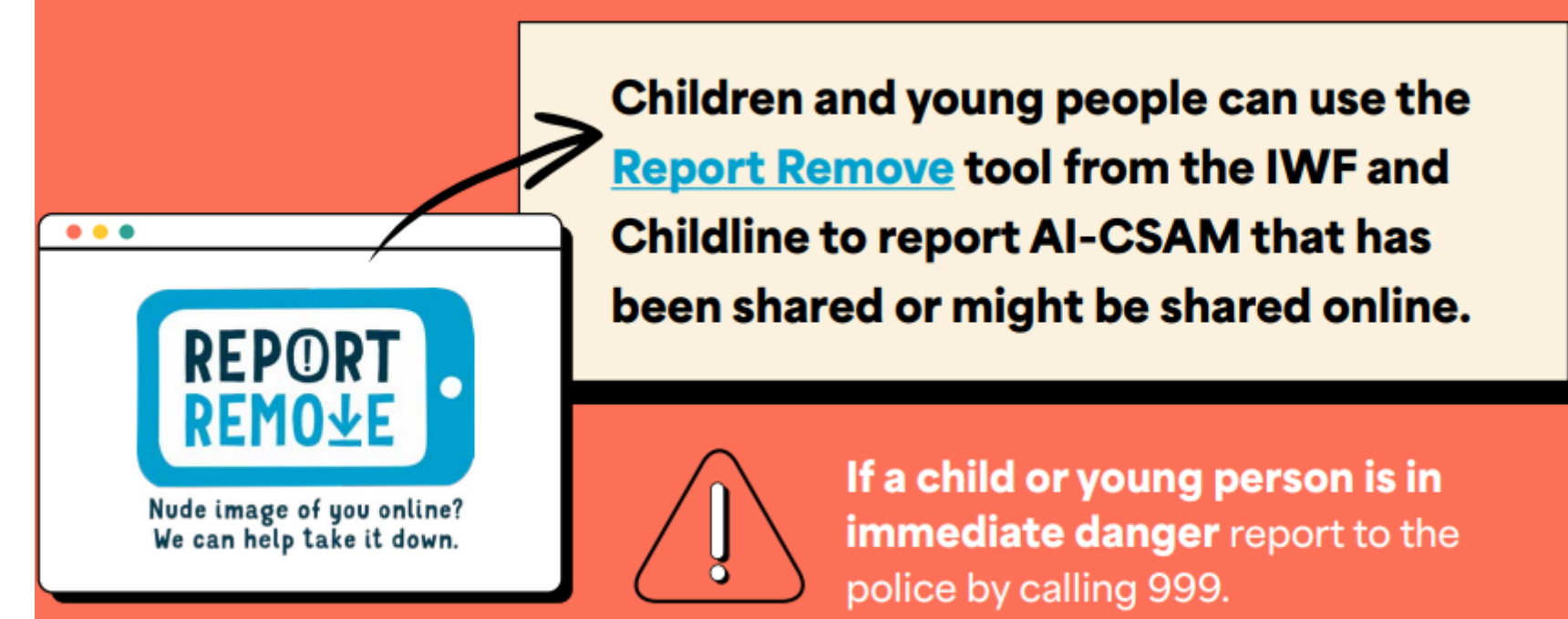


Read the news story: [Privacy at a cost: the dark web’s main browser helps pedophile networks flourish, experts say](#)

Social Media

- Mainstream social media platforms like **Reddit**, **Telegram** and **Discord** have become informal entry points to the dark web, playing a central role in guiding users on to the **Tor Network**: *“If you want to see my real stuff, here’s a link to my thing”*
- These platforms host discussions about accessing Tor, which include step-by-step guides, marketplace directories, safety tips and .onion links to illicit content.
- Much of the most concerning extremist material is shared through lesser-known platforms like **Gab**, **8Chan**, **Patreon** and **Discord**, and encrypted apps like **Telegram** and **WhatsApp**.

How to respond to a CSAM incident



1. Report the incident immediately to your DSL
2. **Do NOT share, download or save the content** – even for reporting purposes! For further information, please see [Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: how to respond to an incident \(overview\) \(updated March 2024\) - GOV.UK](#).
3. Encourage the young person not to delete anything that could be used as evidence, such as messages, images, videos, usernames and URL links.
4. Report it to the site, app or network hosting it.
5. Report it to the Police. Call 101, or 999 if you believe the child or young person is in immediate danger.
6. Provide wellbeing support. As with any form of child sexual abuse, victims will need additional support to manage the emotional and psychological impact.



Nude image of you online?
We can help take it down.

Report Remove is here to help young people under 18 in the UK to confidentially report sexual images and videos of themselves and remove them from the internet. www.childline.org.uk | Call 0800 1111

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

Childline is a free and confidential service for under-19s living in the UK:

www.childline.org.uk | Call 0800 1111



Shout provides 24/7 urgent mental health support via text:

www.giveusashout.org | text SHOUT to 85258

Stop It Now helpline is for anyone worried about child sexual abuse, including their own thoughts or behaviour.



www.stopitnow.org.uk | Call 0808 1000 900

Changes to KCSIE 2025

Alternative Provision – school's must...


- Obtain written confirmation that safeguarding checks have been completed by the provider.
- Have written assurances that the provider must notify the school of any staff changes or risks
- Keep accurate records of where the child is, including all sites attended
- Review placements at least every half term to ensure safety and suitability
- Immediately review or end placements if safeguarding concerns arise.

Virtual School Heads: the update provides clarity on the Virtual School Heads and their responsibilities around **kinship care**.

[Arranging Alternative Provision - guide for LAs and schools](#)

Changes to KCSIE 2025

Attendance and Absence

- **'Working Together to Improve School Attendance'** is now statutory
 - **Absence** (not just 'missing') may indicate safeguarding concerns
- 

Changes to KCSIE 2025

SEND Terminology

- Aligned with SEND Code of Practice
- Removed outdated terms like 'spectrum disorder'



Gender Questioning Children

Revised guidance expected soon!

Guidance for Schools and Colleges: Gender Questioning Children

Overview

The consultation is seeking views on the content of the guidance and whether it will help to support schools and colleges, teachers and leaders to make considered and lawful decisions in relation to children who are questioning their gender and the wider school and college community.

What happens next

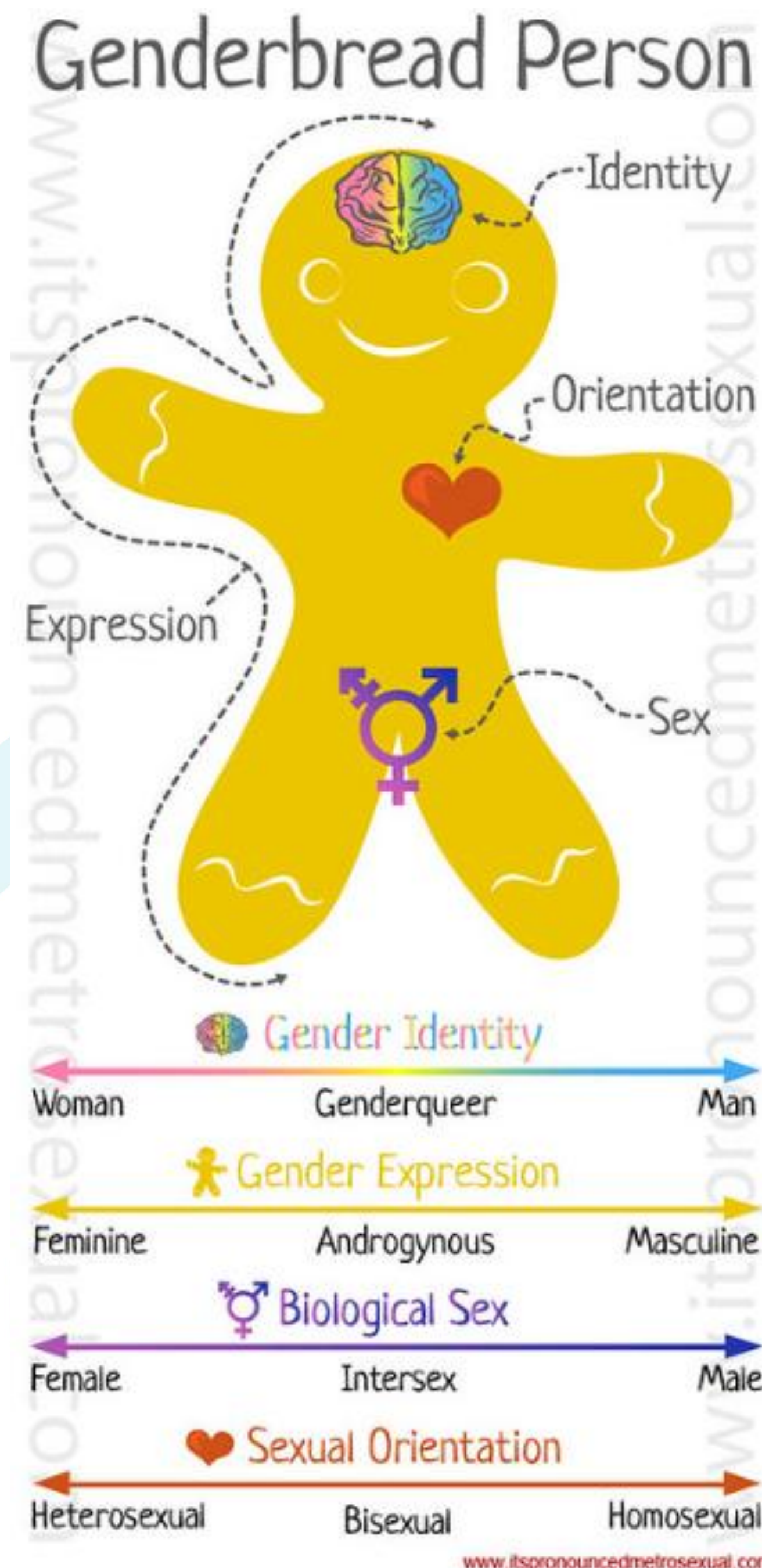
The results of the consultation and the department's response will be [published on GOV.UK](#) in 2025.

Closed 12 Mar 2024

Opened 19 Dec 2023

Contact

gqcguidance.consultation@education.gov.uk



Other bits and bobs...

Online Safety Act 2023

Mandatory Age Verification on Pornographic Websites

From 25 July 2025, all pornographic websites accessible in the UK must have effective age verification systems in place (such as ID checks or facial age estimation).

New Offences:

- **Cyberflashing**
- **Epilepsy trolling**
- **Threatening communications**
- **Encouraging serious self-harm**
- **Sharing intimate images** (including deepfakes)



Convictions are already happening...

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of BBC News articles, each with a red header and navigation links. The articles are:

- Left Article:** "Cyber-flashing convict is first to jailed under new law". The article is dated 18 March 2024 and is by Lewis Adams. It reports that Nicholas Hawkers, 35, of Bealton, Essex, was sentenced to 12 weeks in jail for cyber-flashing offenses and 14 additional weeks of suspended sentences. The article mentions that the woman took screenshots of the WhatsApp image sent on 3 February and reported it to police the same day.
- Middle Article:** "Man who encouraged woman herself sentenced". The article is dated 4 July 2023 and is by Dan Hunt. It reports that Tyler Webb, 23, was sentenced at Leicester Crown Court on Friday for encouraging a woman to harm herself. The article states that Tyler Webb, 23, connected with his victim on social media before asking the woman, who cannot be named, to harm herself for his own "sexual gratification". Police said the victim's bravery was "profound" in reporting the offence, which led to Webb being the first person in the country to be charged with encouraging serious self-harm online under section 15A of the Online Safety Act 2023. Webb was given a hybrid order of nine years and four months, which will last.
- Right Article:** "Zach's Law: West Yorkshire boy hails victory over online trolls". The article is dated 20 September 2023 and is by PA Media. It reports that Zach Eagling, a 12-year-old boy with epilepsy, has welcomed an anti-trolling law passed after bullies targeted his condition. Zach Eagling, from Liversedge, is "over the moon" now Zach's Law means it is illegal for trolls to maliciously send flashing images to epilepsy sufferers. He began campaigning after he was targeted during a charity challenge he undertook during Covid. Zach's mother Claire Kear said: "Zach was deeply upset at the online trolling and was determined to make it stop."

Blogs >

“We need you to protect us” – some hard truths about children’s access to pornography

16 June 2025

[“We need you to protect us” - some hard truths about children’s access to pornography | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

[“Sex is kind of broken now”: children and pornography | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

The Children’s Commissioner for England has been interviewed by the **Naked Truth Project** on concerns about children accessing pornography. The discussion explores the mental health impacts of pornography and social media exposure. The Commissioner calls for: high-quality, age-appropriate Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE); parents to talk to their children about what they are seeing online; and tech companies to design safer platforms.

Intimate Image Abuse (IIA)

What is Intimate Image Abuse?

Intimate Image Abuse, also referred to as 'Revenge Porn', is the act of sharing intimate images or videos of someone, either on or offline, without their consent with the intention of causing distress. This is against the law and included in the Criminal Justice and Courts Act (2015): [Revenge Porn Helpline | SWGfL](#)

What should I do next?

Get in touch for free, confidential support and assistance with reporting content that has been shared online. The helpline cannot guarantee removal of all images online but hold exceptional partnerships with industry partners. We're open Monday to Friday from 10am until 4pm. You can email us at any time and we will respond during our helpline opening times



Email

Email us at
help@revengepornhelpline.org.uk we're open Monday to



Telephone

Call us on 0345 6000 459
Friday from 10 am till 4pm.

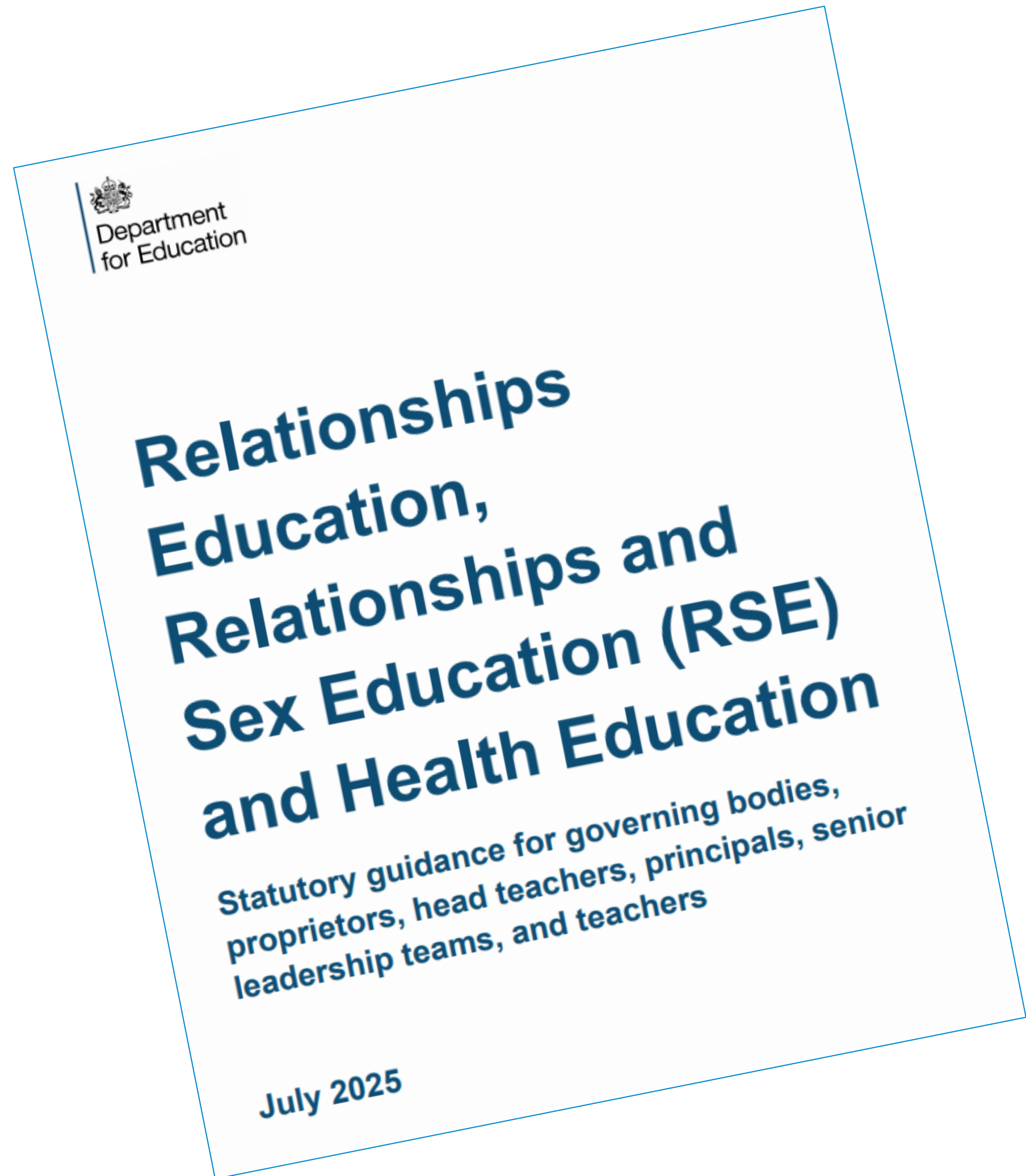


Our Website

Visit our dedicated
website for additional
online resources.



New RSHE Guidance (Statutory from September 2026)



Key Changes in the 2025 RSHE Guidance:

- Enhanced Online Safety
- Suicide Prevention
- Respectful Relationships
- Parental Involvement
- Age-Appropriateness
- Gender and Sexual Orientation
- Mental Health
- Specific Topic Additions
- Online Gambling and Illegal Activities
- Transparency

Ofsted Guidance

Not met	Met
Culture	
<p>Leaders and those responsible for governance have not ensured a culture in which safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and learners are kept safe and feel safe.</p> <p>There is a closed culture. Leaders are not open to challenge and/or do not learn from issues or incidents.</p> <p>Learners have little confidence that the provider will tackle concerns about safety, including risk of abuse, because leaders have not taken their views seriously and/or dealt with relevant concerns.</p> <p>Serious failings in safeguarding practice lead to learners, or particular groups of learners, being unsafe.</p>	<p>Leaders establish a culture in which safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and learners are kept safe and feel safe.</p> <p>All staff are vigilant and have the knowledge and confidence to carry out their statutory responsibilities for keeping learners safe</p> <p>Staff understand the indicators of possible safeguarding concerns and follow the provider's systems confidently and consistently.</p> <p>Leaders, staff and those responsible for governance or oversight are receptive to challenges and are reflective about their own practices. This ensures that the impact of safeguarding policies, systems and processes is kept under continual review.</p>
Learners under 18 and those up to the age of 25 with an education, health and care plan	
<p>Leaders, staff and/or those responsible for governance do not fulfil their responsibilities as set out in 'Working together to safeguard children' and parts one to five of 'Keeping children safe in education'.</p> <p>Leaders are not keeping learners safe from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism in accordance with the 'Prevent' duty.</p> <p>Those responsible for governance do not exercise strategic oversight of all aspects of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of learners.</p>	<p>Leaders, staff and/or those responsible for governance know and fulfil the statutory requirements for safeguarding.</p> <p>Leaders keep learners safe from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism in accordance with the 'Prevent' duty.</p>
Adult learners	
<p>Leaders are not meeting their statutory responsibilities for keeping adult learners safe.</p>	<p>Leaders meet their statutory responsibilities for keeping adult learners and apprentices safe.</p>
<p>Leaders are not keeping adult learners and apprentices safe from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism in accordance with the 'Prevent' duty.</p>	<p>Leaders keep adult learners and apprentices safe from the dangers of radicalisation and extremism in accordance with the 'Prevent' duty.</p>
Safeguarding concerns or allegations	
<p>Leaders and those responsible for governance are not fulfilling their responsibilities for reporting, referrals and record-keeping as set out in 'Working together to safeguard children' and part four of 'Keeping children safe in education'.</p> <p>Leaders and those responsible for governance do not handle safeguarding allegations against adults appropriately.</p> <p>The provider is not aware of its duty in relation to referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).</p>	<p>Leaders and those responsible for governance are fulfilling their responsibilities for reporting, referrals and record-keeping as set out in 'Working together to safeguard children' and part four of 'Keeping children safe in education'.</p>

Policy paper

Giving every child the best start in life

The government's strategy for improving child development and meeting the ambition that 75% of 5-year-olds in England have a good level of development by 2028.

From: [Department for Education](#) and [The Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP](#)

Published 7 July 2025

[Giving every child the best start in life - GOV.UK](#)
[Homepage | Best Start in Life](#)



[Pregnancy](#) [Baby](#) [Toddler](#) [Childcare and Early Years Education](#) [School readiness](#) [Childcare eligibility checker](#)

The Best Start in Life parent hub

There are no wrong questions when it comes to your child's development.

Best Start in Life brings together trusted information and support from pregnancy through your child's early years and beyond.

I need help with

[When should my child start eating solid food?](#)

[How do I get my child ready for school?](#)

[Can I get help paying for childcare?](#)



Safer Recruitment Guidance

- Enhanced DBS checks every **3** years
- Online searches for shortlisted candidates
- CVs accepted only with full application forms
- Safer recruitment training for managers every 2 years
- External Providers must maintain a Central Staff Record (CSR)

Induction & Training

- All staff receive safeguarding induction
- Annual safeguarding and Prevent training updates
- CPD opportunities provided
- External Providers responsible for staff training and policy awareness

Guidance

DBS ID checking guidelines

Guidance to help you validate the identity of a DBS check applicant and a new lead/countersignatory.

From: [Disclosure and Barring Service](#)

Published 19 November 2012

Last updated 3 July 2025 — [See all updates](#)

[DBS ID checking guidelines - GOV.UK](#)

Prevent – Current Terrorism threat levels

The threat level indicates the likelihood of a terrorist attack in the UK.

National Threat Level

- The threat to the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) from terrorism **is substantial**

Northern Ireland-related threat level

- The threat to Northern Ireland from Northern Ireland-related terrorism **is substantial**

New Safeguarding & Prevent Process

New Referral and Reporting Process

- **Initial Concern:** Staff must report safeguarding concerns to their Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- **Assessment:** DSL will assess whether the threshold for significant harm is met
- **Referral:** If harm is suspected, the DSL will support contact to Children's Services (MASH) or police.
- **FGM Exception:** Mandatory direct reporting to police by the person discovering it: [Mandatory reporting of female genital mutilation: procedural information \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK](#)
- **Record Keeping:** The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) must ensure that all concerns, decisions, and the rationale behind those decisions are documented securely and in detail.

Designated Safeguarding Lead Officers

Hampshire Achieves (YPL, ATL & Sub-Contracted Provision)

- Debi Copeland, deborah.copeland@hants.gov.uk Mob: 07926 077442 (DSL)
- Kevin Sumner (Deputy DSL) Kevin.sumner@hants.gov.uk Mob: 07701259111

Hampshire Outdoors:

- Stuart Cousens stuart.cousens@hants.gov.uk Mob: 07714 768182

Hampshire Futures:

- Andy Webb andy.webb@hants.gov.uk Mob: 07779348099
- Jennifer Setters Jennifer.Setters@hants.gov.uk MS Teams 03707792965
- Dee John, dee.john@hants.gov.uk Mob: 07784 264713

Secure & Specialist

- Shaun Laycock, Shaun.Laycock@hants.gov.uk
- Rebecca Parrett, Rebecca.parrett@hants.gov.uk

Updated Safeguarding Procedures

- If you are unable to contact the DSL/Deputy DSL and need to seek immediate advice, please contact the Hampshire County Council, Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) through the Children's Professionals Line **01329 225379**
- or by email to csprofessional@hants.gov.uk
- or by phone **0300 555 1384** during office hours
- or **0300 555 1373** at all other times (out of hours service)
- or the police in an emergency at **101**.

What to Record / Report

- Name of learner
- Course attended / attending
- The time and date of when the concern / incident first came to your notice
- Location in which the incident took place
- Involvement type (for example is the learner the victim or perpetrator)
- Concern summary
- Details of concern (be clear, accurate and **objective** about what was observed, heard and/or disclosed, use the person's own words, people involved, witnesses, time and date incident took place, impact on the learner, how they presented emotionally/physically)
- Include a body map if appropriate (e.g. physical injuries)
- The action you have taken or intend to take (for example telephone call to parents)
- Add any attachments (for example a written account from a learner)

Dealing with Allegations

Against Staff

- Report immediately to DSL/Deputy.
- DSL contacts the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).
- No internal investigation until LADO advises.
- Staff may be removed from duties during investigation.

Peer-on-Peer Abuse

- Staff must maintain an attitude of “it could happen here.”
- All reports are taken seriously and investigated.

Staff must:

- Record concerns in writing (e mail).
- Notify their line manager
- Contact DSL or MASH if DSL is unavailable

Key Messages in Safeguarding

- It's **everyone's responsibility** to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm – don't just presume that someone else will report concerns
- Always maintain a '**professional curiosity**' when safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults
- Never make assumptions

[Wellbeing support available to all HCC staff](#)



Additional Resources, Webinars & Info

- **KCSIE 2025 Video** <https://www.safeguardingschools.co.uk/kcsie2025a>
- [Online safety: expert insight videos | NSPCC Learning](#)
- **Revenge Porn Podcast:** <https://player.captivate.fm/episode/fd726780-9851-4dbb-b540-29b3ad400b55>
- **Everyone's Safer Webinar - Lucy Faithfull Foundation.** The Lucy Faithfull Foundation, dedicated to the prevention of harmful sexual behaviour, will host a free webinar on **Wednesday 24th September:** <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/716d446c-105c-4c7f-a50b-fdf96f0ffcc9@ad6b4fe9-6137-4dbe-9acd-969b4723df64>

SEND Resources (Online Safety):

[SEND \(Special Educational Needs and Disabilities\) | SWGfL](#)



Supporting SEND Students with Staying Safe Online

For learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, the digital world presents both opportunities and challenges.

As students navigate online spaces, our Topic Hub offers advice and support.

swgfl.org.uk/topics

 **SWGfL**
Safe, Secure, Online

The Breck Principles - Breck Foundation

The Breck Foundation has published a set of resources aimed at mitigating digital harms. The organisation was founded in 2014 to promote digital resilience among children and young people (with useful resources for SEND learners): [Breck Resources | Breck Foundation](#)

KCSiE Quiz

Staff need to complete the [KCSiE Quiz](#) by
Friday 12 September 2025

