Changes to Keeping Children Safe In Education (2025)

This briefing outlines the key changes to the 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) 2025 guidance, effective from 1 September 2025. It includes headline updates, structural overview, implications for schools, and a summary of changes from the 2024 version.

Headline Updates in KCSIE 2025

- Minimal technical changes with improved clarity and accessibility.
- Anticipated links to revised statutory guidance on RSHE and gender-questioning children.
- Future updates will reflect findings from national audits and inquiries.
- Clarification on terminology: sensitivity in using terms like 'victim' and 'perpetrator'.
- Annex F includes a detailed table of changes from the 2024 version.

Structure of the Guidance

The guidance remains structured in five main parts:

- 1. Safeguarding Information for All Staff Emphasises child-centred approach and early identification.
- 2. Management of Safeguarding Reinforces leadership responsibilities and legal frameworks.
- 3. Safer Recruitment Updates on checks, regulated activity, and recording requirements. Refer to Annex F, section 3, you may be required to update your Safer Recruitment policy.
- 4. Safeguarding Allegations Against Staff Differentiates concerns based on harm threshold.
- 5. Child-on-Child Sexual Violence and Harassment Guidance on incident response and support.

Implications for Schools and Colleges

- Review safeguarding policies before September 2025.
- Ensure staff training reflects updated terminology and expectations.
- Prepare for future updates linked to RSHE and gender identity.
- Use Annex A or Part One appropriately based on staff roles.

Annex F – Summary Table of Changes

A detailed table summarising changes from the September 2024 version is included in Annex F of the guidance.

If you would like this information in another format please contact:

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