

Online Safety 4 Schools

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Online Safety: KCSiE 2024 vs 2025

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Purpose: Understanding the Changes in **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025** compared to **KCSiE 2024** – Specific to **'Online Safety'**

Online Safety: KCSiE 2024 vs 2025 Comparison (At a Glance)

Online Safety Topic	KCSiE 2024	KCSiE 2025	Notes
Misinformation / Disinformation / Conspiracy Theories	✗ Not mentioned	✓ Explicitly included. Online Fakeness and its impact on Online Exploitation (Deep Fake) (para 135)	New online harm category
Filtering & Monitoring - Self-assessment support	✗ Not included	✓ 'Plan technology for your school' should include discussion of School Internet Access & Data, plus Website & App restriction. (para 142)	Aids technical evaluation
Generative AI Guidance	✗ Not included	✓ Now includes importance of AI training & guidance. (para 143)	Emphasis on emerging tech
Cybersecurity - Emphasis on Resilience	⚠ Mentioned broadly	✓ Highlights 'cyber resilience'. should also include understanding the importance of Online Competence. (para 144)	Aligns with DfE standards
Annual Review of Online Safety Approach Recommended	✗ Not mentioned	✓ Online Safety Audit Encouraged (para 145)	Structured evaluation approach
Governor Oversight Tools - UKCIS 'Questions' Resource	✗ Not included	✓ Recommended. Schools should look to include Governor / Trustee training. (para 146)	Helps governors assess policies

2025 -2026 Online Safety Workshops 'At A Glance'



Online Safety for Schools - Staff

Key Online Safety-Related Changes from 2024 to 2025

1. Greater Emphasis on Concurrent Online and Offline Abuse

- **2025 update** reinforces that online abuse often occurs **simultaneously** with offline abuse, highlighting how these are **not isolated risks**.
- It notes that children may experience **abuse via chat groups**, including the **non-consensual sharing of indecent or abusive content**, which was previously less emphasized.

2. Clarity on Filtering and Monitoring Responsibilities

- While both versions state that training must include online safety, the **2025 version puts clearer emphasis** on understanding **roles and responsibilities related to filtering and monitoring technologies** in schools.
- References to **paragraph 140 (2025)** (previously para 140 in 2024) are maintained but with clearer instruction around ensuring this understanding during **induction and refresher training**.

3. Terminology and Links Updates

- The 2025 version standardizes references to **“nude and semi-nude images and videos”** (previously varied between “sexting” or “youth-produced sexual imagery”) in line with **UKCIS guidance**.
- More direct links are provided to updated government and UKCIS guidance documents, making it easier for staff to access practical help.

4. Online Safety in Child-on-Child Abuse

- The 2025 version more explicitly discusses **online elements in child-on-child abuse**, e.g.:
 - **Online bullying**
 - **Harassment and misogynistic/misandrist messages**
 - **Distribution of indecent imagery without consent**

5. Online Misuse Highlighted as a Standalone Risk

- Online safety is referenced more frequently in the **context of signs of abuse**, reinforcing it as a **core safeguarding concern** rather than just an add-on.

Category	KCSiE 2024 Guidance	KCSiE 2025 Guidance
Concurrent Online & Offline Abuse	Mentions online risks separately from offline abuse.	Emphasises abuse often occurs both online and offline simultaneously.
Filtering & Monitoring Responsibilities	Mentions filtering/monitoring in training but with less emphasis.	Clearer training requirements around filtering & monitoring responsibilities.
Terminology & Links	Terminology varies; 'sexting' and 'youth-produced imagery' used.	Consistent terminology: 'nude & semi-nude images/videos'; links to UKCIS.
Child-on-Child Online Abuse	General mention of online bullying and harassment.	Expanded detail on online elements in peer abuse and chat groups.
Online Misuse as Safeguarding Risk	Online misuse is addressed but not always explicitly.	Explicitly framed as a core safeguarding issue.

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