

KCSIE 2026: What's Changed

The key updates for schools and education settings, effective 1 September 2026.

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 was published on 7 July 2026 and takes effect on 1 September 2026, replacing the 2025 edition. Until then it is for information, so now is the time to prepare. Here is what has changed, at a glance.

1 Everyone reads Part One in full

From September, every member of staff is expected to read Part One of KCSIE in full, whatever their role. Plan a re-brief and keep a record of who has read it.

2 Earlier help, clearer referrals

A stronger expectation to identify concerns early and refer children who need Family Help or statutory intervention, in line with the reformed help system.

3 Stronger multi-agency working

Greater emphasis on working with partners across agencies, so no child falls between services.

4 Tackling violence against women and girls

A clearer focus on preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, in your culture and your curriculum.

5 Aligned with Early Years and Working Together

Closer alignment with the Early Years Statutory Framework and Working Together to Safeguard Children, for one consistent approach across the system.

6 Sharper information sharing

Reinforced expectations on sharing information appropriately and promptly to keep children safe.

What to do before September. Update your safeguarding policy to KCSIE 2026, re-brief all staff on Part One and record it, and check your training and induction reflect the 2026 changes.

Would a second pair of eyes help? Safeguarding Assured supports schools and education settings to stay current and inspection-ready. Find out more, and try the free Ofsted and KCSIE readiness check, at safeguardassured.com.