

# Governor Safeguarding Training

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BARNSELY  
GOVERNORS  
ASSOCIATION

# Agenda

- Governor Responsibilities
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024
- Online Safety
- Staff Allegations
- Questions



# Governance Handbook

The board should ensure they facilitate a whole school or trust approach to safeguarding, ensuring safeguarding and child protection are at the forefront and underpin all relevant aspects of process and policy.

Maintained Schools Governance Guide & Academy Trust Governance Guide



# Key Governance Responsibilities

## Strategic leadership

Strategic leadership sets strategy and champions the school's culture, vision and ethos by:

- working with school leaders to set a clear vision, with a focus on pupil progress, achievement and wellbeing
- communicating the vision throughout the school and reviewing it regularly (in church schools, the vision and values are underpinned by the trust deed)
- defining the values and ethos of the school
- defining medium and long-term strategic objectives
- monitoring and evaluating the school's performance
- implementing the school's strategy
- initiating and leading the school's improvement plans
- ensuring that the school's strategy is communicated to all stakeholders
- managing and monitoring the school's financial resources
- embedding appropriate risk management systems
- regularly reviewing the school's financial performance
- ensuring the wellbeing of staff and that staff workload is managed
- making informed decisions on whether to form, join or grow a group of schools, supported by strong due diligence and, where applicable, working with the appropriate religious body
- adopting a whole-school approach to safeguarding arrangements and child protection, ensuring it is central to the school's processes
- preserving and developing the religious ethos of the school, where it has a religious character, by working alongside the appropriate religious body

Adopting a whole-school approach to safeguarding arrangements and child protection, ensuring it is central to the school's processes

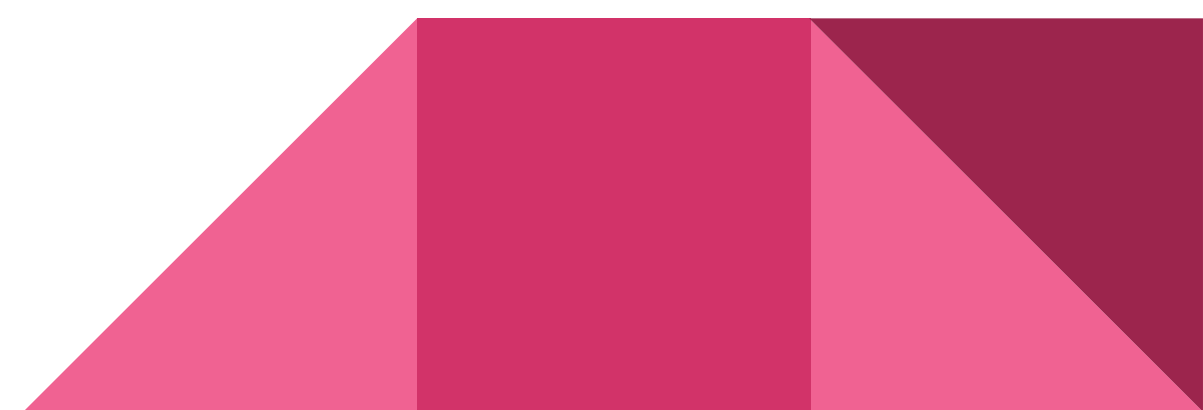
# Key Governance Responsibilities

## Accountability

Strategic decisions that aim to improve educational standards and financial performance by:

- inspecting pupil progress, attainment and financial information and comparing these with local and national benchmarks
- monitoring and evaluating the school's performance against its defined strategic objectives
- challenging the school's performance and providing appropriate support
- implementing and reviewing the school's strategic plan
- prioritising the school's resources
- ensuring the school's financial service
- having a clear understanding of the school's financial position
- managing the school within the available resources
- ensuring regularity, propriety and value for money

Challenging school leaders when necessary and providing appropriate support



# Key Governance Responsibilities

## People

Effective governance should involve people with the right skills, experience, behaviours and capacity who:

- understand the organization's mission and vision
- are committed to the organization's success
- are approachable and accessible
- bring a range of perspectives and skills
- understand the organization's risks
- use their powers and authority effectively and remain independent

Effective governance should involve people with the right skills, experience

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The governing body **must** have:

- a chair or co-chairs, supported by one or more vice-chairs, to lead and set the culture of the governing body
- a governance professional (clerk) to:
  - provide expert procedural advice and administrative support
  - manage the efficient and compliant operation of the governing body

# Key Governance Responsibilities

## Governance structures

Clearly defined governance

- appropriate
- 
- clear separation between school leadership
- positive relationships between school leadership, parents, carers, staff
- processes and communication
- governance arrangements, remits and delegations that are understood by all those involved in governance, including school leaders
- publishing up-to-date and accessible information on governance arrangements

Separation between strategic and operational leadership.

# Key Governance Responsibilities

## Compliance

Governing bodies comply with statutory and contractual requirements by:

- ensuring (conditions of grant)
- ensuring and diversity throughout the
- ensuring for example, Church of
- effectively (END) duties are undertaken
- effectively across the school
- setting and monitoring of the school or school's budget
- overseeing and regularly monitoring the impact of pupil premium and other targeted funding stream conditions

Keeping Children Safe in Education

Further information about [statutory policies for schools](#) is available.



# Key Governance Responsibilities

## Evaluation

Regular evaluation to monitor and improve the quality and impact of governance by:

- completing regular evaluations to identify strengths, weaknesses, skills and knowledge gaps and inform:
  - recruitment
  - training
  - induction
- regularly reviewing performance
- commissioning external evaluations of the governing body's effectiveness and areas for development
- following legal requirements:
  - evidence of the governing body and its committee's discussions and decisions
  - any evaluation of the governing body's impact

Training on KCSIE and keeping pupils safe online in education

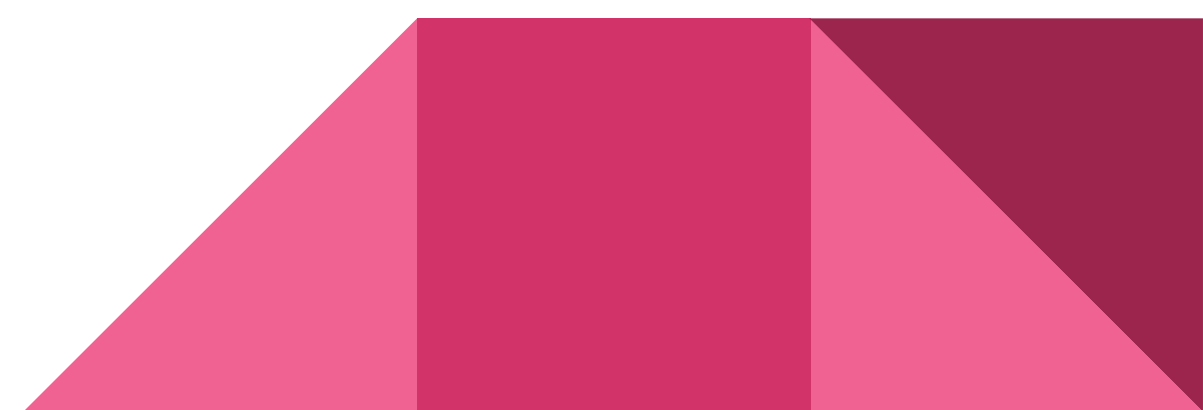
# Governor Responsibilities as per KCSiE

- **Overall Responsibility:** Governors have ultimate responsibility for safeguarding in their school. They must ensure that policies, procedures, and training are in place and effectively implemented.
- **Policy and Procedures:** Governors must ensure the school has an up-to-date child protection policy that complies with Keeping Children Safe in Education. This includes policies on online safety, staff behavior, and responding to allegations of abuse.
- **Training:** Governors must ensure all staff receive appropriate safeguarding training, including induction for new staff and regular updates. They should also ensure they receive training to understand their responsibilities.
- **Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Governors must appoint a designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and ensure they have the necessary training and resources to carry out their role.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Governors should regularly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in the school. This includes reviewing incident reports, seeking feedback from staff and pupils, and ensuring compliance with policies and procedures.
- **Working with Others:** Governors should ensure the school works effectively with other agencies, such as social services and the police, to safeguard children.
- **Culture of Safeguarding:** Governors should promote a culture of safeguarding in the school where everyone understands their responsibilities and children feel safe to raise concerns.

## Keeping children safe in education 2024


Statutory guidance for schools  
and colleges

2 September 2024




# Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024

## Part 1: Safeguarding Information for All Staff

- **Definition of Safeguarding:** The definition of "safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children" has been amended to align with "Working Together." This emphasises that "children" includes everyone under 18, highlighting issues like exploitation and teenage relationship abuse.
  - **Early Help:** The triggers for early help have been revised to reflect those in "Working Together." This includes adding pupils who have experienced multiple suspensions or are at risk of permanent exclusion, recognising potential safeguarding issues alongside behavior.
  - **Indicators of Abuse and Neglect:** This section now explicitly mentions the impact on children who witness or experience domestic abuse.
  - **Safeguarding Issues:** The wording has been updated to refer to "unexplainable and/or persistent absence from education" instead of "deliberately missing education," highlighting the need to connect absence with potential safeguarding concerns.
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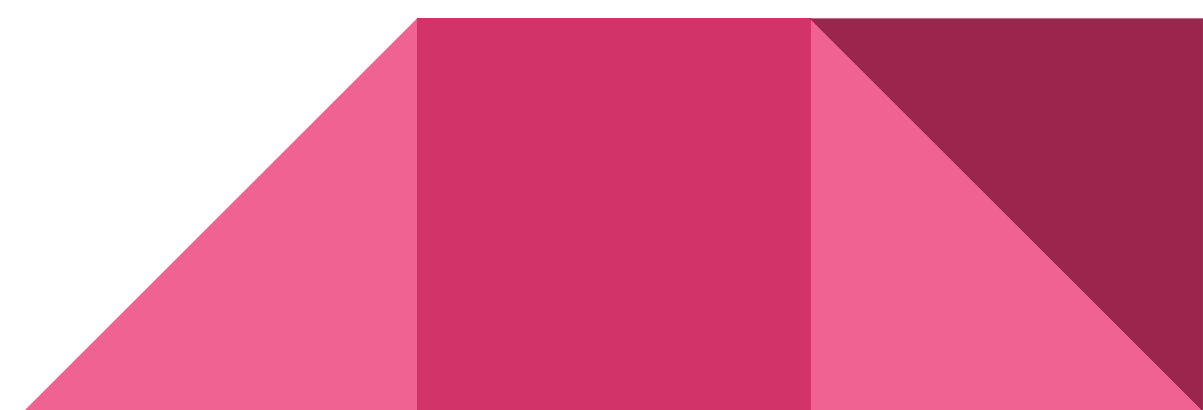
# Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024

## Part 2: The Management of Safeguarding

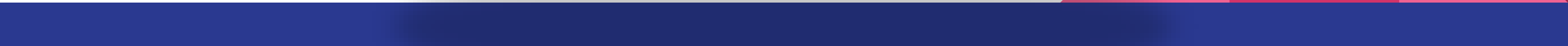
- **Data Protection:** The guidance now references the Data Protection in Schools Toolkit to support staff, governors, and trustees on data protection compliance, policy development, storage, and preventing breaches.
  - **Alternative Provision:** There's a clarification about schools' responsibilities in safeguarding pupils they place in alternative provision.
  - **Gender Questioning:** A section has been included with amendments to phrasing, reflecting upcoming guidance on children who may be questioning their gender.
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# Online Safety

- 1. Understanding the Risks**
- 2. Policy and Procedures**
- 3. Implementation and Monitoring**
- 4. Curriculum and Education**
- 5. Staff Training and Support**
- 6. Working with Parents**
- 7. Accountability and Review**



**Online Predators can reach  
further than you think.**





**Online child sexual abuse imagery has increased 830% since 2014**

**Girls who spent more than five hours a day on social media were three times more likely to become depressed than those who didn't use it at all.**

**84% increase in online grooming in the last four years**

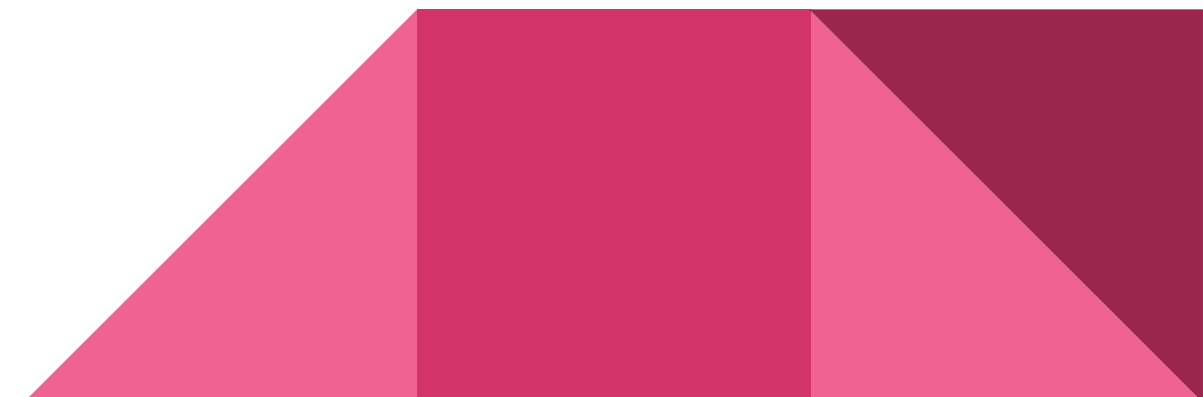


**1/3 of children put themselves at risk by playing online regularly with strangers**

# Social Media

School governors need to be aware of social media for several reasons:

- **Safeguarding:** Social media can present risks to children and staff, such as cyberbullying, online grooming, and the sharing of inappropriate content. Governors should ensure the school has robust policies and procedures in place to mitigate these risks.
- **Reputation Management:** Social media can be used to spread misinformation or negative comments about the school. Governors should be aware of how to monitor and respond to such content in a way that protects the school's reputation.
- **Data Protection:** Schools collect and store a lot of personal data about students and staff. Governors need to be aware of the data protection implications of using social media, and ensure that the school is complying with all relevant legislation.
- **Effective Communication:** Social media can be a valuable tool for communicating with parents, students, and the wider community. Governors should encourage the school to use social media in a positive and proactive way.





Mainstream

Facebook

X

Instagram

Reddit

YouTube

TikTok



Non - Mainstream

4Chan  
NeinChan

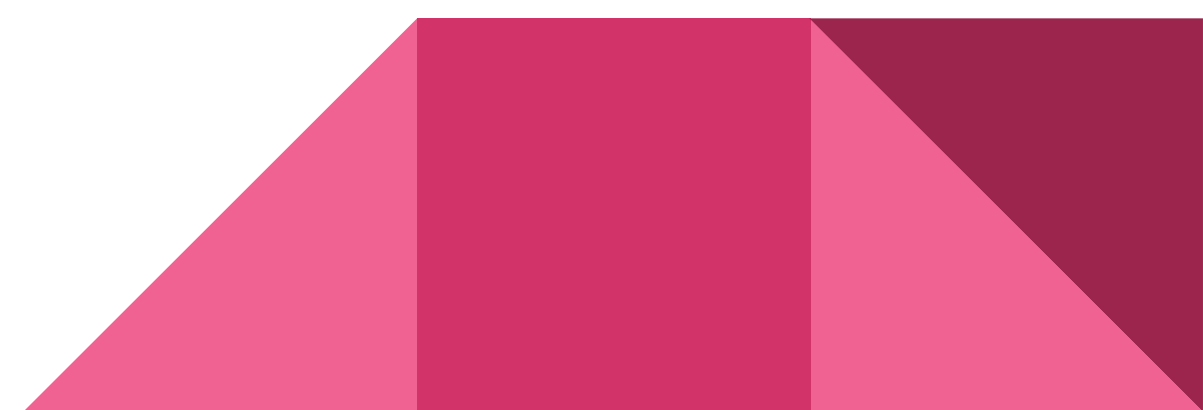
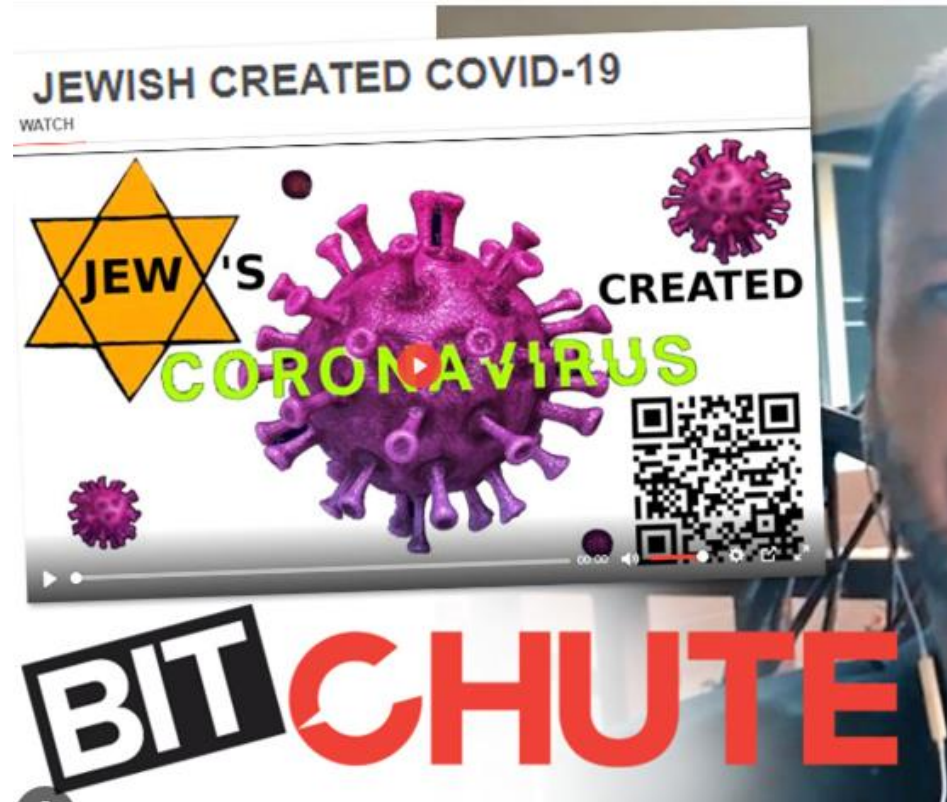
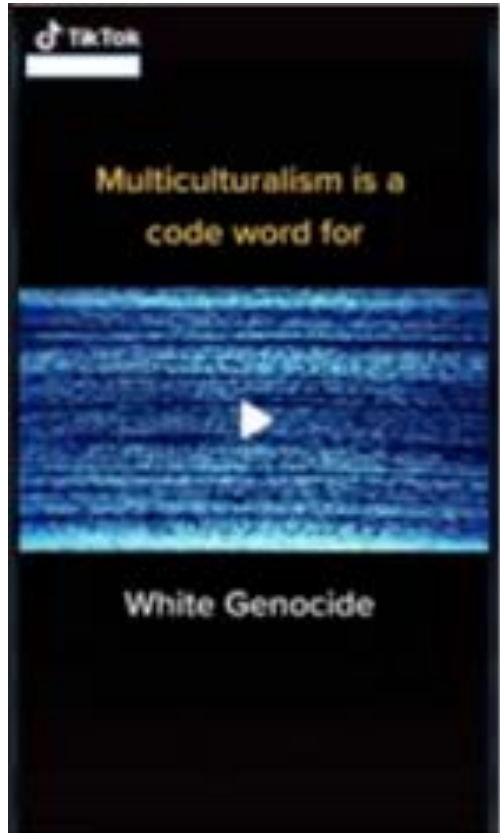
8Kun  
Telegram

Parler  
Discord

BitChute

Gab  
Gettr  
Odysee





## Filtering and Monitoring



### **Key Questions for Governors:**

- What filtering and monitoring systems are in place?
- How effective are these systems?
- How is the school balancing online safety with access to educational resources?
- How are staff trained to use the systems and respond to incidents?
- How are data protection and privacy considered in monitoring activities?
- How regularly are the filtering and monitoring arrangements reviewed?

AI





# What should schools do?

- Review Policies
- Curriculum
- Data Protection
- Use AI carefully



# Staff Allegations

- Alerts for filtering of staff devices
- Code of conduct
- Acceptable Use Policies (AUP)
- Low Level Concerns
- Processes for managing allegations
- Allegations against the Head Teacher

**Keeping  
children safe  
is everyone's  
responsibility**



