

Online Safety: Staff Briefing

Summer 2026

This is a termly staff briefing produced by Knowsley CLCS, it is designed to update school practitioners with some of the latest research and resources to support the delivery of online safety in schools.

New Guidance: Protecting School Images from AI Manipulation and Abuse

The UK Online Harms Early Warning Working Group have published guidance sharing best practice and considerations for education settings and organisations working with children and young people on the use of photos and videos across their online platforms, to address the risk of AI image manipulation. Recent incidents have demonstrated how publicly available photographs can be copied and manipulated using AI tools, including the creation of harmful or sexualised content, which may then be used for blackmail or abuse.

Schools are encouraged to consider the following actions:

- Review current use of pupil images across websites, social media and publications
- Avoid using clearly identifiable, face-on photographs where possible
- Avoid pairing pupil names with photographs
- Consider using images taken from a distance, over the shoulder, or with faces blurred
- Remove metadata (such as EXIF location data) before uploading images
- Use lower-resolution images and review platform privacy settings
- Ensure consent, retention and image-use policies remain up to date
- Include image security and AI awareness within safeguarding and staff training

The guidance also includes practical checklists and advice on responding to incidents involving manipulated or misused images.

Full guidance, including checklist of actions to consider is available here:
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/image-guidance-for-education-settings>

Web Filtering

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) holds the lead responsibility for online safety, including overseeing filtering and monitoring. LGfL have produced a 45-minute self-service training video to help you understand your role. Watch it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5w8gUZaITtc>

Molly Rose Foundation Resources

The Molly Rose Foundation has a wide array of tools, guidance and activities to help support safe and confident digital learning. They have a range of lesson ideas, training materials and practical guidance designed to help you support young people's digital wellbeing. Access them here:

<https://mollyrosefoundation.org/resources/resources-educators/>

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy Toolkit

LGfL have introduced an AI Policy Toolkit to support you in developing an AI Policy. Find out more here.

<https://viewonline.lgfl.net/hubfs/SafeguardED/Artificial%20Intelligence%20Policy%20Toolkit%E2%80%9393%202026.pdf>

Talk Relationships

NSPCC Learning has published new Talk Relationships resources to help schools engage parents and carers with the sex and relationships education (SRE) being taught, supporting them to talk to their children about healthy relationships. Access the resources here:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/talk-relationships?modularPage=parents-and-carers>

AI literacy for Secondary schools

From 2028, the UK curriculum will integrate AI literacy in skills, critical engagement and societal impacts (bias, misinformation, economics) across computing, citizenship, English, Science and PSHE. You can book a free training workshop with ParentZone:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/ExperienceAI/Schools>

Childline Posters

NSPCC Learning have published a new series of Childline posters to encourage children to use Childline if they need support. Access them here:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/childline-posters>



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