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| **Consultation response form**  **Consultation closing date: 16 February 2016** **Your comments must reach us by that date** |
| Keeping children safe in education |

**If you would prefer to respond online to this consultation please use the following link:** [**https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations**](https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations)

We are interested to know your views to our proposals on the policy changes required to Parts 1 and 2 of Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes, primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you want all, or any part, of your response to be treated as confidential, please explain why you consider it to be confidential.

If a request for disclosure of the information you have provided is received, your explanation about why you consider it to be confidential will be taken into account, but no assurance can be given that confidentiality can be maintained. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Department will process your personal data (name and address and any other identifying material) in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, and in the majority of circumstances, this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

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If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the Ministerial and Public Communications Division by e-mail: [consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk) or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the Department's ['Contact Us'](https://form.education.gov.uk/fillform.php?self=1&form_id=cCCNJ1xSfBE&type=form&ShowMsg=1&form_name=Contact+the+Department+for+Education&noRegister=false&ret=%2Fmodule%2Fservices&noLoginPrompt=1) page.

Please insert an ‘x’ into one of the following boxes which best describes you as a respondent.

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1 Should governing bodies, proprietors and management committees be required to ensure that all staff should not only read at least Part 1 but also **understand** it?

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2 Will the new emphasis on “understand” lead to you changing process or procedure in your school? Please provide details.

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3 Does the section “The role of school and college staff” make clear that safeguarding is **everyone’s** responsibility?

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4 Does “What school and college staff should do if they have concerns about a child” provide a simple and easy to follow message with regards to referrals?

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5 Is the new flow chart on page 10 an improvement compared to the old flow chart that it replaces?

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6 What changes would you propose to improve the effectiveness of Part 1?

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7 Does it help to publish Part 1 as a standalone document?

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8 Will the proposed changes to Part 1 require you to adjust your safeguarding policies and procedures? Please provide details.

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9 Is the guidance clear as to the cover arrangements for “the designated safeguarding lead”?

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10 Should “designated safeguarding lead” training be provided annually- as a minimum?

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11 We are proposing staff should receive regular safeguarding refresher training, annually as a minimum. Would this result in you having to provide training more frequently?

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12 How often do you provide training currently?

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13 Is it reasonable to expect schools and colleges to ensure they have appropriate online filters and monitoring systems in place to protect children from harmful online material?

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14 Would it help schools and colleges if online guidance/an online portal was created that set out what “appropriate” filters and monitoring systems looked like and advice as how to satisfy themselves that they have them?

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15 Is it reasonable to change the emphasis from “should consider” to “should ensure” with regards to teaching about safeguarding, including online?

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16 Will the change in emphasis from “should consider” to “should ensure” lead to an increase in costs?  Please provide details.

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17 What, if any, information would help governing bodies and proprietors develop appropriate peer on peer abuse policies and procedures?

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18 What changes would you propose to improve the effectiveness of Part 2?

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19 Will the proposed changes to Part 2 require you to adjust your safeguarding policies and procedures? Please provide details.

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20 Do you have any comments on the changes made to the Annexes?

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Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you place an 'X' in the box below.

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Here at the Department for Education we carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, please confirm below if you would be willing to be contacted again from time to time either for research or to send through consultation documents?

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All DfE public consultations are required to meet the Cabinet Office [Principles on Consultation](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance" \t "_blank)

The key Consultation Principles are:

* departments will follow a range of timescales rather than defaulting to a 12-week period, particularly where extensive engagement has occurred before
* departments will need to give more thought to how they engage with and use real discussion with affected parties and experts as well as the expertise of civil service learning to make well informed decisions
* departments should explain what responses they have received and how these have been used in formulating policy
* consultation should be ‘digital by default’, but other forms should be used where these are needed to reach the groups affected by a policy
* the principles of the Compact between government and the voluntary and community sector will continue to be respected.

If you have any comments on how DfE consultations are conducted, please email: [consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk)

**Thank you for taking time to respond to this consultation.**

Completed responses should be sent to the address shown below by 16 February 2016

Send by post to: address,   Michael Bell, Level 3, Bishopsgate House, Department for Education, Feethams, Darlington, DL1 5QE

 Send by email to: [Safeguarding.SCHOOLS@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Safeguarding.SCHOOLS@education.gsi.gov.uk)