

BRIEFING FOR DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS

The home-side of *Keeping Children Safe in Education*, and how we help schools close it.

School filtering ends at the school gate. KCSIE 2025 expects schools to engage parents on what children do online at home. This briefing shows, in one page of analysis and one matrix, how a free UK tool helps you discharge that duty without buying anything or sharing any data.

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Citations APA 7th ed.

Framework KCSIE 2025

The point of this document, in 90 seconds.

A free 30-second check tells parents whether their home broadband is genuinely filtering what they think it is. Most are not. KCSIE 2025 asks schools to have this conversation with parents. We make it easy.

WHY

KCSIE 2025 (Department for Education, 2025) reinforces the duty on schools to talk to parents about children's online access away from school (NSPCC, 2025). School filtering ends at the school gate.

SO WHAT

You can discharge the home-side of that duty by signposting one neutral, free, UK GDPR-safe resource. No procurement. No data flow. No overlap with classroom filtering.

Five minutes from this PDF, you could:

1. Open **parentalcontrol.uk** and run the 30-second check from your office Wi-Fi (it will tell you that's a work network, but you'll see the flow your parents see).
2. Copy the policy paragraph on page 7 into your Online Safety Policy appendix.
3. Forward this PDF to your PTA chair with the offer of a free 20-minute walkthrough. Or reply to **hello@parentalcontrol.uk** and we will arrange it.

What is in this briefing

02	The home-side problem, in four numbers	3
03	What KCSIE 2025 actually says about parents and home access	3
04	Eight points of alignment with KCSIE 2025	4
05	Alignment matrix for your evidence file	5
06	What we explicitly do not do	6
07	Governance, data protection, audit trail	6
08	Drop-in policy and newsletter copy	7
09	Free walkthrough offer and contact	7
10	References (APA 7th ed.)	8

SECTION TWO

The home-side problem, in four numbers.

~ 70%

of UK parents use some technical control, but Ofcom finds the majority rely on device-level settings; network-level ISP filters remain off by default on most consumer broadband (Ofcom, 2024).

0 MINUTES

that a school's filtering and monitoring stack covers a child's home Wi-Fi, mobile data, or a friend's house. KCSIE 2025 expects schools to address this gap by engaging parents directly.

9 ISPS

each publish their own different filtering interface. No school can reasonably maintain ISP-by-ISP guidance internally and keep it current as menus, app names and account flows change.

30 SECONDS

is how long the ParentalControl.uk home check takes. No sign-up, no app, no data kept, no fee, no upsell. Browser-based. Plain English. No procurement.

SECTION THREE

What KCSIE 2025 actually says.

“Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure that their school or college has appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in place and regularly review their effectiveness.”

KCSIE 2025, Part Two (Department for Education, 2025)

NSPCC Learning's summary of the 2025 changes singles out the reinforcement of "the importance of talking to parents about children's access to online sites when away from school" (NSPCC, 2025). Paragraph 135 of the new guidance adds misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories as safeguarding harms (Coy, 2025). Paragraph 143 signposts DfE guidance on generative AI. The DfE filtering and monitoring standards expect schools to provide parents with online-safety resources and to encourage open communication between parents and children about online activities (Department for Education, 2023).

School filtering covers the school day. Parental engagement covers everything else. Most schools have the first. The second is harder to staff and harder to evidence.

The Four Cs of online risk, updated in 2025

CONTENT

Pornography, self-harm, suicide content, extremism. 2025 adds **misinformation, conspiracy theories** and explicit reference to **generative AI**.

CONTACT

Grooming, coercion, unsolicited adult contact in games and on social platforms, particularly via chat features and DMs.

CONDUCT

The child's own behaviour: sharing nudes, peer-on-peer abuse, online bullying, hate speech.

COMMERCE

Scams, gambling-style mechanics in games, in-app spending, loot boxes, financial manipulation.

Eight points of alignment with KCSIE 2025.

Each item maps a specific KCSIE expectation to a specific product capability. Written for inclusion in a DSL evidence file.

01 Parental engagement on home access · *KCSIE 2025, Part Two*

KCSIE 2025 reinforces the duty to engage parents on children's online access at home (NSPCC, 2025). We give you one free, neutral, UK resource to recommend in newsletters, at parent evenings, and on your online-safety policy page.

02 All four KCSIE risk categories tested · *Part One, online safety*

Content, Contact, Conduct, Commerce. Discrete browser-based probes for each, including the 2025 additions on AI and misinformation. Results return in plain English with one clear next action.

03 2025 additions covered: AI and misinformation · *¶135 and ¶143*

Paragraph 135 added misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories as safeguarding harms; paragraph 143 links to DfE guidance on generative AI (Coy, 2025; The Key, 2025). Both are tested as discrete categories with dedicated guides under *Learn*.

04 No overlap with school filtering or monitoring · *¶102, F&M roles*

We test the parent's home network only. We do not run on, or interact with, any school infrastructure. No procurement implications. No conflict with Smoothwall, Sophos, NetSweeper, Impero, Senso, or Securly.

05 Independent, dated, and verifiable · *Evidence standard*

Every page on the site carries a visible last-verified date, a named editorial reviewer, and a public methodology (Martin-Smith, 2026a). Unusual in consumer online-safety; designed so DSLs can cite a specific dated version.

06 UK GDPR safe to recommend · *Data protection*

No accounts. No personal data collection from parents. No result stored. No marketing list generated or sold. Suitable to recommend without triggering a third-party DPIA for your school.

07 SEND-aware Family Agreement template · *Annex C, DSL role*

KCSIE 2025 retains its emphasis on additional online risks faced by children with SEND. Our one-page printable Family Agreement (Martin-Smith, 2026b) is short, jargon-free, and suitable for tutor time or SEND adaptation.

08 Built in the British Isles, by a UK parent · *Credibility*

Built by a UK father of four; supported by a small SSS Group portfolio of UK broadband tools, not by your families. No advertising. Nothing sold to parents on the back of the check. Not a freemium tier.

Alignment matrix, for your evidence file.

Lift this table, with or without attribution, into your online-safety policy appendix or DSL evidence pack.

KCSIE 2025	WHAT THE GUIDANCE ASKS	HOW WE SUPPORT IT
Part 1 · ¶135	Misinformation, disinformation, conspiracy theories newly added as safeguarding harms	Discrete category tests including AI and misinformation; dedicated <i>Learn</i> guides
Part 2 · ¶102	DSL takes lead responsibility for understanding filtering and monitoring	Free home-side check parents can rerun after a router or provider change
Part 2 · ¶142	Schools use Plan Technology for Your School to self-assess F&M standards	Complementary parent-facing tool that mirrors the four-category framework
Part 2 · ¶143	Awareness of generative AI as a safeguarding consideration	Discrete AI category test and dedicated AI safety guides under <i>Learn</i>
F&M Standards (DfE)	Provide parents with information and resources on online safety	Setup guides for nine UK ISPs, plus smartphones, consoles, smart TVs, DNS
Annex C	DSL responsibilities for online safety, including SEND	Plain-English site and SEND-adaptable one-page Family Agreement template
UK GDPR	Data minimisation when recommending third-party tools	No accounts, no personal data, no result storage, no advertising
Part 5	Acceptable use and open communication at home	Printable Family Agreement template at parentalcontrol.uk/family-agreement

SECTION SIX

What we explicitly do not do.

A briefing is only useful if the limitations are as clear as the benefits.

- **Not a replacement for school filtering or monitoring.** We do not touch the school network.
- **Not a substitute for safeguarding training.** We complement existing CPD; we do not deliver it.
- **Not a clinical or pastoral service.** We signpost to NSPCC, Childline, Internet Matters, UK Safer Internet Centre, and Lucy Faithfull Foundation's Shore Space.
- **No data collection from parents.** No account, no email capture, no result stored, no marketing list created.
- **No advertising on the site.** Supported by the SSS Group's UK broadband portfolio, not by your families.
- **Not affiliated with any UK ISP.** Setup guides link to each provider's official documentation. We earn nothing if a parent acts on a guide.
- **No subscription, freemium tier, or premium upsell.** Free is genuinely free. This is not a trial.

SECTION SEVEN

Governance, data protection, audit trail.

Corporate and regulatory standing

- **Operator:** SearchSwitchSave Limited, Isle of Man company **030828B**.
- **Data protection:** Information Commissioner (Isle of Man) registration **R697728**.
- **Intellectual property:** UK trade mark **UK00004211113**.
- **Founder:** Dr Alex J. Martin-Smith, CMgr, MBA, LL.M, DBA. Fifteen years in UK consumer broadband.
- **Portfolio:** BroadbandSwitch.uk, UKSpeedTest.co.uk, RightSpeed.co.uk, FBRE.uk, Laggy.uk, HowFast.uk, NewPasswordGenerator.co.uk.

Editorial method (full version: parentalcontrol.uk/methodology)

1. Each guide starts from the ISP, manufacturer, or platform's own documentation.
2. Steps are run in a clean browser session and noted where labels differ by firmware or app version.
3. One recommended path is written; alternatives only where needed.
4. Every setup guide includes a removal path.
5. Pages are stamped with a last-reviewed date and named editorial reviewer.

Audit trail

A public changelog at parentalcontrol.uk/changelog records substantive updates. Schools can cite a specific dated version of the resource. Corrections go to hello@parentalcontrol.uk; the published corrections policy prioritises any error that could cause a parent to enable the wrong setting.

SECTION EIGHT

Drop-in copy for policy and newsletters.

Written for direct copy-paste. Adapt freely.

FOR YOUR ONLINE SAFETY POLICY

The school recognises that online safety extends beyond the school network and that families bear practical responsibility for filtering, monitoring and supervising children's online activity at home. In support of parents and guardians, the school signposts ParentalControl.uk: a free, independent, UK-based resource that allows parents to verify, in approximately thirty seconds and at no cost, whether their home broadband filters are active across the four KCSIE risk categories of Content, Contact, Conduct and Commerce, including generative AI and misinformation. ParentalControl.uk is operated by SearchSwitchSave Limited (Isle of Man company 030828B; ICO IoM registration R697728), under a published methodology and a public corrections policy. It collects no personal data from parents.

FOR A PARENT NEWSLETTER

Most UK home routers ship with parental controls switched off, and many parents are surprised to find their filters are inactive. ParentalControl.uk is a free thirty-second check you can run on your own home Wi-Fi. Nothing to sign up to. Nothing to buy. If anything is open, the site links you straight to your broadband provider's official setup page with the steps written out in plain English. We recommend it.

SECTION NINE

A free 20-minute walkthrough for your PTA.

UK schools have been inviting us to run free Zoom or Teams walkthroughs for their PTA committee, parents at an online-safety evening, or their DSL and IT lead. The session covers what parents see when they run the check, the most common gaps we find broken down by UK ISP, practical fixes parents can complete the same evening, and the Family Agreement template. No fee. No upsell. Nothing sold to families afterwards.

Reply to hello@parentalcontrol.uk with two or three dates and we will send the invite back.

CONTACT

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This briefing is prepared for information only and does not constitute legal, safeguarding or regulatory advice. Schools should refer to the full Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 statutory guidance and any supplementary DfE materials when making policy decisions. ParentalControl.uk is operated by SearchSwitchSave Limited, Isle of Man company 030828B, ICO Isle of Man registration R697728, UK trade mark UK00004211113. The site, the check and all setup guides are provided free of charge. Last reviewed 16 May 2026. Comments and corrections welcome at hello@parentalcontrol.uk.