

Child Protection Policy – Interim Addendum 26/27

Published 9th September 2026

For the attention of: All Headteachers, Principals, Governing Bodies, Trusts, Designated Safeguarding Leads and their deputies, an Alternative Education Providers

This document is the **Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Interim Addendum to the Model Child Protection Policy 2026/2027** for schools, colleges and other education providers.

The final September 2026 version of **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026** contains additional provisions that were not included in the July 2026 version used to prepare the original Nottinghamshire policy template.

This addendum provides settings with interim wording that can be placed at the beginning of their existing Child Protection Policy or published alongside it. Its purpose is to demonstrate that:

- the setting is aware of the changes contained in the final September 2026 guidance;
- relevant staff have been informed of the changes;
- safeguarding practice and procedures reflect the new requirements with immediate effect; and
- the full Child Protection Policy will be amended, reviewed, approved and republished through the setting's governance arrangements.

Settings should not delay changes to safeguarding practice while awaiting formal amendment or approval of their policy. The requirements of the final September 2026 version of **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026** apply with immediate effect.

The addendum does not replace the setting's existing Child Protection Policy. It should be read alongside the current policy until the revised policy has been formally approved and published.

Settings should:

- read this addendum in full and complete all setting-specific fields
- ensure that the wording accurately reflects the immediate action taken by the setting
- brief staff and retain a record of the information provided
- review any policies, procedures or training materials that refer to specific KCSIE paragraph numbers
- publish the completed addendum with the current Child Protection Policy
- remove the addendum when the fully revised and approved policy is published.

Do not include this introductory cover page in the setting's final Child Protection Policy.

Contact

Should you have any queries regarding this guidance or the addendum please contact:

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Interim Addendum to the Child Protection Policy 2026/2027



Date added: 11th Sept 2026

Child Protection Policy approved on: 8th Sept 2026

Next formal review: 1st October 2026

Purpose and Status of This Addendum

The final September 2026 version of **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026** contains additional provisions that were not included in the July 2026 version used when this Child Protection Policy was prepared.

The Welbeck Federation is aware of these changes. Relevant safeguarding practice and procedures have been updated with immediate effect, and staff will be informed of the revised expectations.

This addendum should be read as part of the existing Child Protection Policy until the full policy has been amended, checked, approved through the setting's governance arrangements and republished.

Where the existing policy differs from the final September 2026 version of KCSIE, current legislation and statutory guidance take precedence.

Prejudice-Based and Discriminatory Harm

All staff should recognise that children may experience prejudice-based harm, including racism, faith-based prejudice and other forms of discrimination. Such experiences may affect a child's welfare, wellbeing, mental health, sense of safety and willingness to seek help.

Staff will remain alert to the signs and impact of prejudice-based harm and will consider concerns within safeguarding practice where appropriate.

Concerns will not be treated solely as behaviour, equality or disciplinary matters where they may affect a child's welfare, wellbeing or safety. They must be reported and recorded in accordance with the setting's safeguarding procedures.

Discriminatory behaviour, including racism, faith-targeted abuse and other prejudice-based incidents, will be recognised, recorded and responded to within the setting's child-on-child abuse arrangements.

Discriminatory Child-on-Child Behaviour

Discriminatory behaviour, including racism, faith-targeted abuse and other prejudice-based incidents, is recognised as a potential form of child-on-child abuse.

Where appropriate, concerns will be:

- reported and recorded through the setting's safeguarding procedures;
- considered alongside any other information known about the children involved;
- assessed in relation to the effect on the child's welfare, wellbeing and sense of safety;
- responded to through safeguarding and behaviour procedures; and
- reviewed to identify patterns, wider risks or additional support needs.

The absence of previous reports does not mean that discriminatory or prejudice-based harm is not occurring.

Inclusive and Anti-Discriminatory Safeguarding Culture

The governing body or proprietor and setting leaders will promote an inclusive, anti-discriminatory culture in which racism and other forms of discriminatory behaviour are recognised, challenged and addressed as part of the setting's safeguarding responsibilities.

Children will be provided with accessible ways to report prejudice-based and discriminatory harm and will be supported to have confidence that their concerns will be listened to, taken seriously and acted upon.

Relevant safeguarding information will be reviewed to identify patterns and inform staff training, preventative education, pastoral support and improvements to practice.

Revised Definition of Sexual Abuse

The setting recognises that the definition of sexual abuse in the final September 2026 KCSIE has been revised and expanded to align with Working Together to Safeguard Children.

Staff will use the definition contained in the final September 2026 KCSIE when recognising, reporting and responding to concerns. Relevant staff have been informed of the revised wording and the additional clarification contained in the current statutory guidance

EYFS Pre-Employment Checks

Where the setting is subject to the **Early Years Foundation Stage framework**, an individual must not begin working within the provision covered by the EYFS framework until the school or maintained nursery school has received the individual's enhanced DBS certificate, including children's barred-list information.

This includes volunteers covered by the requirement in the final September 2026 KCSIE. Allowing the individual to begin work under supervision, or relying only on a separate children's barred-list check while awaiting the enhanced DBS certificate, does not meet this requirement for work within EYFS-covered provision.

The setting will immediately review:

- individuals due to begin work within EYFS provision;
- volunteers who are due to begin relevant work;
- any individual currently awaiting an enhanced DBS certificate with children's barred-list information; and
- recruitment and volunteer procedures that allow individuals to begin work before a certificate is received

The setting will retain an appropriate record of the checks undertaken and the date on which the required certificate was received.

Immediate Actions

The Welbeck Federation will:

- brief staff on the changes relevant to their roles;
- ensure that prejudice-based and discriminatory harm is recognised within safeguarding practice;
- review child-on-child abuse and behaviour arrangements;
- consider whether reporting and recording systems adequately capture discriminatory incidents;
- review staff training and preventative education;
- review information-sharing guidance and supporting materials;
- complete the required review of EYFS recruitment and volunteer arrangements;
- check references to numbered KCSIE paragraphs; and
- incorporate the changes into the full Child Protection Policy and relevant linked procedures.

Review and Approval

This addendum takes effect immediately and will remain alongside the current Child Protection Policy until a fully revised policy has completed the setting's review and governance process.

The full policy will be amended, reviewed and submitted to the governing body, trust board or proprietor for formal approval as soon as reasonably practicable.

Interim addendum authorised by: Lisa Jordan

Role: Executive Headteacher & DSL

Date: 11.09.2026

Date communicated to staff: 11.09.2026

Date published with the existing policy: 11.09.2026

Proposed date for formal policy approval: 01.10.2026