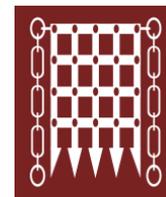


**Westminster Education Forum & Westminster eForum policy conference:  
Next steps for children's online safety in the UK - regulation and legislation, social media usage, and  
priorities for education settings**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026

\*\*\*Taking Place Online\*\*\*



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Social media use for children and young people - safeguarding, enforcement, and system alignment**  
*consultation on children's digital wellbeing | implications for digital rights and access to age-appropriate educational content | age verification and age assurance models | enforcement across jurisdictions and platforms | platform accountability | options for compliance and sanctions | supporting schools to embed digital literacy | alignment with wider safeguarding frameworks, including Keeping Children Safe in Education | lessons from international jurisdictions such as Australia, and practicalities | risk displacement to unregulated or informal online spaces | emerging technologies such as infinite-scroll features and AI chatbots*  
**Katie Freeman-Taylor**, Head, Research and Policy, Internet Matters  
Senior representative, school  
Senior representative, social media platform  
Senior representative, legal  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.50 **International approaches to social media restrictions - impact, implementation, and lessons for the UK**  
Senior representative, international policy  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 **Regulation, inspection, and accountability - supporting schools to implement online safety policy**  
Senior representative, regulation
- 10.25 **Mobile phone policies in schools - enforcement, wellbeing, and classroom culture**  
*regulating mobile phone use in schools | impact on pupil wellbeing, behaviour and attainment | exposure to harmful and illegal content | consistency of enforcement across the system | practical implementation challenges for school leaders | expectations for phone-free school days under updated guidance | balancing restriction with digital literacy and resilience-building | expectations under inspection and safeguarding frameworks*  
Senior representative, school  
Senior representative, union  
Senior representative, local authority  
Senior commentator
- 10.45 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.10 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.15 Break
- 11.25 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.30 **Platform responsibilities and codes of practice for supporting online safety**  
Senior representative, online platform
- 11.40 **Next steps for Online Safety Act 2023 implementation - accountability, codes of practice, and early enforcement priorities**  
*escalation thresholds and sanctions | practical challenges of age assurance and verifying user identity | responding to harmful, illegal, and emerging digital risks, including AI-generated content | ensuring alignment with DfE guidance and wider statutory safeguarding duties | protecting freedom of expression while reducing online harm | cross-sector coordination between schools, local authorities, tech platforms, and safeguarding partners | strategies for mitigating circumvention through VPNs and proxy services | sequencing and interaction of new regulatory requirements as implementation progresses | compliance, evidencing impact, and supporting consistent operational implementation across settings | resourcing and capacity considerations | balancing enforcement with digital literacy and safe access to educational content*  
**Joanna Conway**, Partner, Digital Regulation, Deloitte  
Senior representative, school  
Senior representative, technology  
Senior representative, local authority  
Senior representative, parent group
- 12.00 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for the implementation of the Online Safety Act - identifying harmful content, platform accountability, and regulatory priorities**  
**Almudena Lara**, Policy Director, Child Safety, Ofcom  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Sean Cudmore**, Westminster Education Forum