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The UAE Child Digital Safety Law, explained for schools

What the new federal law asks of families, and how your school can help them meet it.



What it is

Federal Decree-Law No. 26 of 2025 on Child Digital Safety is the UAE's first national law dedicated to keeping children safe online. It came into force on 1 January 2026. Cabinet Resolution No. 106 of 2026 adds a minimum age of 15 for social media accounts.

Key dates

Date	What happens
1 Jan 2026	Decree-Law 26/2025 in force
30 Jun 2026	Cabinet Resolution 106/2026: age-15 rule, with 12 months for platforms to comply
1 Jan 2027	One-year adjustment period for platforms ends for regulated entities (Art. 18), extendable by Cabinet.
Mid-2027	End of the platform transition for the age-15 rule

The age-15 rule
Children under 15 can't create or use personal social media accounts.

Who it applies to: Everyone who shapes a child's digital life in the UAE:

- **Digital platforms and internet providers** operating in, or aimed at, the UAE, wherever they are based.
- **Parents and guardians** (the law calls them "caregivers"), who now have legal duties of their own.

Schools are not named directly. But parents turn to schools first for guidance, and in Abu Dhabi ADEK already requires schools to require parents to monitor device use at home.

What it asks of parents:

- Monitor their child's online activity, in a way that suits the child's age.
- Use parental control tools.
- Do not create accounts for children on platforms that aren't right for their age.
- Protect children's privacy and data, and protect them from exploitation.
- Report harmful content or child sexual abuse material to the authorities straight away.

What it asks of platforms: Age checks, privacy-by-default settings for children, content filtering, parental control tools, no targeted ads to minors, and limits on usage time.

Still to come: Penalties will be set out in implementing regulations, which have not yet been published. We'll update this guide when they are.

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What it means for your school

For school leaders.

Every parent in your community now has a duty to monitor their child online and most will need help. Schools that give families clear guidance and practical tools will stand out with parents.

Ask: Do our parents know about their new duties? Who in our school owns parent communication on digital safety?

For IT and digital leads.

The law doesn't set technical rules for schools. But school devices and accounts are part of every child's digital life. If protection stops at the school gate, families are left to fill the gap alone.

Ask: Does our filtering solution still work when a school device goes home? Could we give parents visibility of that device?

For safeguarding and wellbeing leads.

Harm that starts online at home often shows up in school the next day. The law gives you a reason to open the conversation with families, and a shared language to do it.

Ask: When did we last send parents guidance on online safety? Do we know which platforms our under-15s are using?

Checklist for your school

- [ ] We've told parents about the new law and their duties as caregivers
- [ ] We've shared a simple parent guide (see the parent guide)
- [ ] Our digital safety or acceptable use policy mentions the age-15 social media rule
- [ ] School devices are protected at home as well as in school
- [ ] Parents can see what their child does on school devices, or know who to ask
- [ ] Staff know how to spot and report harmful content or exploitation
- [ ] We have a named lead for digital safety conversations with parents
- [ ] We'll review our approach when the schedule of fines is published

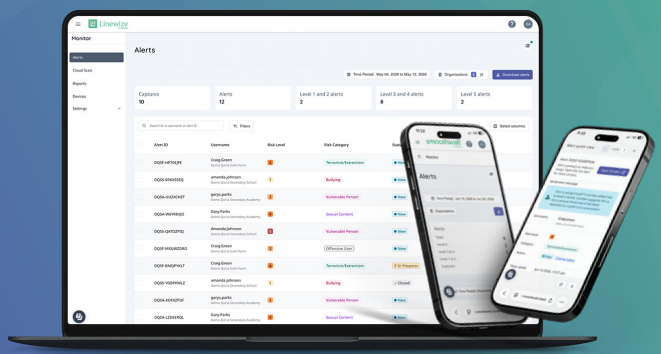
How Qoria helps

The law puts parents at the centre. Qoria connects protection in school with protection at home.

Qoria gives families Qustodio a parent app to supervise screen time, filter content and see activity: the kind of parental controls the law asks parents to use.

Qoria Filter keeps school devices protected on any network, in school and at home.

Qoria Monitor alerts your safeguarding team to signs of risk, with an evidence trail you can act on.



Book a 30-minute review with our UAE team: enquiries@qoria.eu

Sources: Federal Decree-Law 26/2025 (Art. 3, 13, 16, 18) · Cabinet Resolution 106/2026 (Art. 3, 7, 8) · Ministry of Family guidance.
Plain-language summary for information only, not legal advice. Always check the official texts.