

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION UPDATE - 310
20th August 2019**

Statutory guidance - Concordat on children in custody (29/07/19)

Guidance for police forces and local authorities in England on their responsibilities towards children in custody.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/concordat-on-children-in-custody>

Sexual Abuse of Children in Custodial Institutions: Government response (23/07/19)

The government has responded to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse's report Sexual Abuse of Children in Custodial Institutions: 2009 to 2017.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-abuse-of-children-in-custodial-institutions-government-response>

Consultation outcome - Serious violence: new legal duty to support multi-agency action (24/07/19)

The Home Office's response to the consultation on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence published on 15 July 2019 sets out in full:

- the background to the consultation
- the government response and next steps following this consultation
- a summary of the consultation responses

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/serious-violence-new-legal-duty-to-support-multi-agency-action>

An evaluation of Independent Child Trafficking Guardians - early adopter sites: Final report (22/07/19)

This report evaluates the Independent Child Trafficking Guardians service in the three early adopter sites for the two year period from February 2017 to January 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/an-evaluation-of-independent-child-trafficking-guardians-early-adopter-sites-final-report>

Independent inquiry into child sexual abuse: interim report (22/07/19)

Independent inquiry into child sexual abuse (IICSA), chaired by Professor Alexis Jay.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-inquiry-into-child-sexual-abuse-interim-report>

Interim guidance for ICTGs early adopter sites (22/07/19)

Guidance on roles and responsibilities of Independent Child Trafficking Guardians.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-trafficking-advocates-early-adopter-sites>

Statutory guidance - Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) (22/07/19)

Assess and manage the risks posed by sexual and violent offenders: guidance for police, prison service and probation trusts.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multi-agency-public-protection-arrangements-mappa--2>

Children's social work workforce census: guide to submitting data

(12/08/19)

How LAs should collect and submit data to complete the children's social work workforce census.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/childrens-social-work-workforce-census-guide-to-submitting-data>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-social-work-workforce-census-reports-specifications>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-social-work-workforce-census-guide>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-social-work-workforce-census-validation-rules>

Longitudinal study of local authority social workers

(09/08/19)

Findings from a 5 year study of LA child and family social workers in England.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/longitudinal-study-of-local-authority-social-workers>

Characteristics of children in need in England: 2018 to 2019

(08/08/19)

Information on children referred to and assessed by children's social services between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements/characteristics-of-children-in-need-in-england-2018-to-2019>

Childcare and early years providers survey: 2019

(05/08/19)

Statistics on the characteristics of early years providers in England.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements/childcare-and-early-years-providers-survey-2019>

Children looked after return: guide to submitting data

(05/08/19)

How LAs should collect and submit data for the annual children looked after return (also known as SSDA903).

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/children-looked-after-return-guide-to-submitting-data>

Asbestos data collections

(02/08/19)

Findings from the asbestos management assurance process (AMAP), which asked schools and responsible bodies about their asbestos management practices.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asbestos-data-collections>

Understanding the educational background of young offenders: summary report

(01/08/19)

This summary report sets out the key findings from an analysis of young offenders in the youth justice system.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/understanding-the-educational-background-of-young-offenders-summary-report>

School to school (S2S) data transfer system: guides

(26/07/19)

How schools and LAs access and use the S2S secure data transfer system.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-to-school-guides-for-schools-and-local-authorities>

Outcomes for children looked after by LAs: 31/03/18 (25/07/19)

Additional tables on the attainment of previously looked after children (PLAC) who left care through an adoption, special guardianship or child arrangements order.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements/outcomes-for-children-looked-after-by-las-31-march-2018-additional-tables>

Sex and relationship education (25/07/19)

Statutory guidance on sex and relationship education.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sex-and-relationship-education>

Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education (25/07/19)

The new curriculum will be mandatory from September 2020. Schools are encouraged to adopt the new curriculum early from September 2019.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

Permanent and fixed period exclusions in England 2017 to 2018 (25/07/19)

Levels of permanent and fixed period exclusions by school type, including information on reasons for exclusions and exclusion review panels.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/permanent-and-fixed-period-exclusions-in-england-2017-to-2018>



Statistics: exclusions (25/07/19)

Statistics on pupils who are excluded from school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-exclusions>

Children looked after return 2019 to 2020: guide (22/07/19)

Guide for local authorities submitting the children looked after data return for the year 2019 to 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-looked-after-return-2019-to-2020-guide>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-looked-after-return-2019-to-2020-technical-specifications>

School attendance: guidance for schools (18/07/19)

Guidance on using pupil registers and attendance codes, as well as setting school hours and term dates.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance>

Children's Social Care Innovation programme (16/07/19)

A programme that seeks to develop, test and share effective ways of supporting children who need help from children's social care services.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-social-care-innovation-programme>

Health and safety in schools (16/07/19)

The Department for Education's advice and information on health and safety.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/health-and-safety-in-schools>

Asbestos management assurance process (AMAP) user guide (16/07/19)

Guidance to help schools and responsible bodies use the AMAP portal to submit an assurance declaration about compliance with asbestos regulations.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asbestos-management-assurance-process-amap-user-guide>

Children to have greater opportunity to access 60 minutes of physical activity every day (14/07/19)

School Sport and Activity Action Plan will help set children up to lead healthy lives

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/children-to-have-greater-opportunity-to-access-60-minutes-of-physical-activity-every-day>

Understanding child and adolescent wellbeing: a system map (12/07/19)

A report on the factors that influence children and young people's (CYP) wellbeing from the perspective of CYP practitioners.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/understanding-child-and-adolescent-wellbeing-a-system-map>

National mental health programme between schools and NHS (12/07/19)

Education Secretary Damian Hinds sets out next steps in bringing together services for young people in need of mental health support

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-mental-health-programme-between-schools-and-nhs>



PACAC inquiry into eating disorders: government response (13/08/19)

The government's response to the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee's (PACAC) 17th report of session 2017 to 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pacac-inquiry-into-eating-disorders-government-response>

Child death overview panels: contacts (31/07/19)

Contact details of the people in child death overview panels (CDOPs) who are responsible for receiving child death notifications.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-death-overview-panels-contacts>

Social media, young people and mental health (16/07/19)

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care spoke at the Bright Blue and Barnado's conference 'Left to their own devices?'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/social-media-young-people-and-mental-health>

School sport and activity action plan (15/07/19)

A cross-government action plan to provide pupils with greater opportunity to access 60 minutes of sport and physical activity every day.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-sport-and-activity-action-plan>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/children-to-have-greater-opportunity-to-access-60-minutes-of-physical-activity-every-day>

Adolescent vaccine coverage: school level data collection tools (12/08/19)

HPV, MenACWY and Td/IPV school level data collection tools and user guide.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adolescent-vaccine-coverage-school-level-data-collection-tools>

Flu vaccines for children (08/08/19)

A quick reference guide to the childhood flu vaccines for winter 2019 to 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/which-flu-vaccine-should-children-have>

Mental health and self-harm in children and young people (08/08/19)

Trends in hospital admissions of children and young people for mental health conditions, and as a result of self-harm, by age group and local authority.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-and-self-harm-in-children-and-young-people>

Childhood flu programme: information for healthcare practitioners (07/08/19)

Provides information on the flu vaccination programme for children, the vaccine and how to administer it.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childhood-flu-programme-qa-for-healthcare-professionals>

Children's health: migrant health guide (31/07/19)

Advice and guidance on the health needs of migrant patients for healthcare practitioners.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/childrens-health-migrant-health-guide>

Suicide prevention profile: September 2019 update (29/07/19)

The Suicide prevention profile has been produced to help develop understanding at a local level and support an intelligence driven approach to suicide prevention. It collates and presents a range of publicly available data on suicide, associated prevalence, risk factors, and service contact among groups at increased risk. It provides planners, providers and stakeholders with the means to profile their area and benchmark against similar populations.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements/suicide-prevention-profile-september-2019-update>

What works in schools and colleges to increase physical activity (29/07/19)

A report that summarises evidence of what works in schools and colleges to promote levels of activity amongst children and young people.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-works-in-schools-to-increase-physical-activity-briefing>

National child measurement programme (NCMP): trends in child BMI (25/07/19)

Documents that provide a review of the changes in children's body mass index over specific time intervals.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-child-measurement-programme-ncmp-trends-in-child-bmi>

NCMP: operational guidance (17/07/19)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-child-measurement-programme-operational-guidance>

Routine childhood immunisation schedule (12/07/19)

Information for health professionals on childhood immunisations.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/routine-childhood-immunisation-schedule>

Intentional self-poisoning by young people (12/07/19)

Trends in hospital admissions as a result of intentional self-poisoning in young people, by single year of age, England.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/intentional-self-poisoning-by-young-people>

Eating disorders in young people (12/07/19)

Trends in hospital admissions as a result of eating disorders in young people, by single year of age, England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eating-disorders-in-young-people>

Breast-ironing recognised as child cruelty and assault by CPS (19/07/19)

Breast-ironing should be prosecuted as a form of child abuse, the CPS says in new guidance.

The harmful procedure – which involves flattening a girl’s chest with a hot stone or other objects to delay breast growth – is often performed by family members to prevent unwanted sexual attention.

Charities have estimated 1,000 girls in the UK have been affected by the practice, which doctors say can cause



breast cancer, scarring, infections, breastfeeding problems, and psychological trauma.

Now CPS legal guidance makes clear to police and prosecutors that breast-ironing is a crime that can be caught under existing law, even if it is said that the victim has consented.

The offences to be considered by prosecutors include child cruelty and causing or allowing a child to suffer serious harm. Both crimes are punishable by up to ten years in prison. Assault charges would also be available to prosecutors, the guidance confirms.

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/breast-ironing-recognised-child-cruelty-and-assault-cps>

Cafcass - Private Law Data

We received 4,369 new cases during July 2019. This is 18.7% (688 cases) higher than July 2018.

<https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/about-cafcass/research-and-data/private-law-data/>

Cafcass – Public Law Data

We received 1,225 care applications in July 2019 – six less than in July 2018.

<https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/about-cafcass/research-and-data/public-law-data/>

DBS guidance leaflets (06/08/19)

Guidance leaflets relating to eligibility and other DBS services and products.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-guidance-leaflets>

Third-party consent form (06/08/19)

Form to be printed and completed by barring customers that would like someone else to act on their behalf.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/third-party-consent-form>

Information for individuals that have been referred to DBS (02/08/19)

Guidance for referred individuals including why they may have been referred and what happens next.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/information-for-individuals-that-have-been-referred-to-dbs>

Upcoming changes to the enhanced disclosure application process (30/07/19)

The changes take effect from 1 August 2019 and affect both applicants and Registered Bodies.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/upcoming-changes-to-the-enhanced-disclosure-application-process>

Independent Inquiry into CSA**Inquiry publishes report into Nottinghamshire Councils (31/07/19)**

The Inquiry has published its report on the response to allegations of sexual abuse of children in the care of Nottinghamshire Councils.

The report found some 350 individuals reported being sexually abused whilst in the care of the Councils from the 1960s onwards. The true number is likely to be considerably higher.



It concludes that the sexual abuse of children was widespread in both residential and foster care during the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. This included repeated rapes, sexual assaults and physical abuse.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiry-publishes-report-nottinghamshire-councils>

Survivors of child sexual abuse invited to meet Inquiry in Oxford (17/07/19)

The Truth Project is holding sessions for victims and survivors of child sexual abuse in Oxford this September.

The Truth Project was set up to give victims and survivors of child sexual abuse the opportunity to share their experiences in a supportive and confidential setting. It is part of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, which is investigating institutional failures to protect children from sexual abuse.

Information gathered in Truth Project sessions will mean the Inquiry can get a better picture of the past to help create a safer place for children in the future.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/survivors-child-sexual-abuse-invited-meet-inquiry-oxford>

Children's Commissioner's 2019 Stability Index (01/08/19)

This index is an annual measure of the stability of the lives of children in care in England. The Index was launched in 2017 and shines a light on the number of times children in care move home placement, school or social worker. For the first time, the Index publishes stability figures for each council.

This year's index shows how the profile and needs of children in care has changed over the last five years, driven by a growing share of older children and teenage care entrants who have more complex needs and potentially more expensive living arrangements. They are six times more likely than children under 13 to be living in residential or secure children's homes, and nearly half are living in privately-run accommodation.

It shows how the number of teenagers (aged 13 or over) in care rose by 21% between 2012/13 and 2017/18, while the number of 0-5 year olds fell by 15%, and how there has been a large increase in the number of over 16s entering care during the year. This number grew by 25% between 2013/14 and 2017/18 – much higher than for any other age group. As a result 23% of children in care are now over 16. A further 39% are aged 10-15.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/2019/08/01/explosion-in-number-of-older-children-going-into-care-over-last-five-years-is-hitting-stability-of-the-system/>

MPs to investigate children and young people in custody (25/07/19)

The Justice Committee launches a major new inquiry into children and young people in custody.

The Committee's inquiry will consider the progress the Government has made in implementing the recommendations of the Taylor Review and reforming the approach to youth justice. Inquiry: Children and young people in custody <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/justice-committee/news-parliament-2017/children-young-people-custody-launch-17-29/>

Serious Youth Violence (26/07/19)

The Home Affairs Committee has published its latest report, 'Serious youth violence'.

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/201719/cmselect/cmhaff/1016/101602.htm>

Further education and skills inspections and outcomes: management information from September 2018 to August 2019

(12/08/19)

Management information showing in-year and most recent inspection outcomes.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/further-education-and-skills-inspections-and-outcomes-management-information-from-september-2018-to-august-2019>

State-funded school inspections and outcomes: management information
(13/08/19)

Monthly management information and a one-off publication of inspections and outcomes from 2005 to 2015.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/monthly-management-information-ofsted-school-inspections-outcomes>

Children's social care notification form (09/08/19)

Online form for adoption or fostering agencies, children's homes and residential family centres. Downloadable form for residential holiday schemes for disabled children.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notify-ofsted-of-an-incident-form-for-childrens-social-care-providers>

Inspecting local authority children's services from 2018 (09/08/19)

Framework and guidance for services for children in need of help and protection, children in care and care leavers.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-local-authority-childrens-services-from-2018>

Inspection outcomes of the largest children's social care providers
(30/07/19)

These releases identify the 10 largest private and voluntary providers of children's social care in England and their inspection outcomes.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspection-outcomes-of-the-largest-childrens-social-care-providers>

Consultation outcome - Education inspection framework 2019: inspecting the substance of education
(29/07/19)

This is a report on the outcomes of the consultation on proposals for changes to the education inspection framework (EIF) from September 2019. The changes relate to the inspection of registered early years provision, maintained schools and academies, non-association independent schools and further education and skills providers.

With this report we have also published research on inspecting the curriculum and revising our inspection methodology, and an equality, diversity and inclusion statement.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/education-inspection-framework-2019-inspecting-the-substance-of-education>

ISI: annual Ofsted report letters
(23/07/19)

Annual Ofsted report letters on the quality of the inspections and reports by the Independent Schools Inspectorate.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-schools-inspectorate-isi-annual-ofsted-report-letters>

Joint inspections focusing on children's mental health (17/07/19)

Guidance for inspectors for new series of joint inspections focusing on children's mental health.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-inspections-focusing-on-childrens-mental-health>

Joint inspections of local area services (17/07/19)

Details of joint inspections by Ofsted, Care Quality Commission, HM Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services and HM Inspectorate of Probation.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/collecti-
ons/joint-inspections-of-local-area-
services](https://www.gov.uk/government/collecti-
ons/joint-inspections-of-local-area-
services)

Joint inspections of arrangements and services for children in need of help and protection (17/07/19)

Framework and guidance for joint targeted area inspections of local area services.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/joint-inspections-of-arrangements-
and-services-for-children-in-need-of-
help-and-protection](https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/joint-inspections-of-arrangements-
and-services-for-children-in-need-of-
help-and-protection)

Joint targeted area inspections on the theme of children's mental health (17/07/19)

Guidance for inspectors on carrying out joint targeted area inspections (JTAs) of local area services on children's mental health.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/joint-targeted-area-inspections-on-
the-theme-of-childrens-mental-health](https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/joint-targeted-area-inspections-on-
the-theme-of-childrens-mental-health)

Ofsted: Let us inspect multi-academy trusts (MATs) (15/07/19)

Today's report recommends that Ofsted be empowered to inspect trusts in order to strengthen their accountability.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/o-
fsted-let-us-inspect-multi-academy-
trusts-mats](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/o-
fsted-let-us-inspect-multi-academy-
trusts-mats)

Multi-academy trusts: benefits, challenges and functions (15/07/19)

An investigation into multi-academy trusts: how their central vision and approaches influence day-to-day practice in schools and their impact.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/multi-academy-trusts-benefits-
challenges-and-functions](https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/multi-academy-trusts-benefits-
challenges-and-functions)

Consented addresses for childminders and domestic childcare (12/07/19)

This report details the names and addresses for childminders and childcare on domestic premises, where the provider has consented for their name and address to be published on the Ofsted inspection report website.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/consented-addresses-for-
childminders-and-domestic-childcare](https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/consented-addresses-for-
childminders-and-domestic-childcare)

Strengthening families protecting children programme (14/08/19)

Local authorities funding for the children's social care strengthening families protecting children (SFPC) programme.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/strengthening-families-protecting-
children-programme](https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/strengthening-families-protecting-
children-programme)

Service children in state schools (SCISS) handbook (14/08/19)

The handbook is a guide for teachers and other professionals, to the specific issues relating to the needs of children of service personnel.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/service-children-in-state-schools-
handbook](https://www.gov.uk/government/publica-
tions/service-children-in-state-schools-
handbook)

Inspecting self-evaluation: a new approach (July 2019)

During the academic year 2019-2020 ESTYN will be piloting a new approach to self-evaluation in all maintained schools and PRUs.

From September, instead of requesting the self-evaluation report prior to inspection, there will be a professional discussion with the headteacher and nominee around the school's improvement journey.

About the changes

- As we have been developing the National Resource for School Improvement (previously the self-evaluation toolkit) it's become clear that some schools feel that they need to produce a self-evaluation report specifically for inspection.
- This approach can be time consuming and does not always identify or focus on the schools main strengths and priorities for improvement. Often these reports are prepared by senior leaders and not by the whole staff, and present the school in too positive a light, avoiding references to shortcomings that may be difficult to address.
- Focusing on professional dialogue, rather than documentation, emphasises that self-evaluation should inform and support school improvement. It is also good practice for schools to bring together findings from their self-

evaluation processes to inform their own key stakeholders.

- This pilot will help school leaders to focus on doing what's right for their school as opposed to generating a self-evaluation report for inspection only.

During inspection, we will continue to evaluate a school's approach to evaluation and improvement. At the end of the pilot, we will carry out an evaluation to inform the development of new inspection arrangements for September 2021.

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/inspection/school-self-evaluation-improvement-project/inspecting-self-evaluation-new-approach>

Guidance on home education in Wales published for consultation (29/07/19)

The Welsh Government has launched a consultation on new guidance for home education in Wales.

The draft statutory guidance sets out what local authorities need to do to identify children not being taught at school and provides advice on how to assess the suitability of the education those children receive.

The guidance states that children should be seen as part of the assessment of suitability of education once a year, unless there are other issues that warrant more frequent meetings. The guidance also clarifies the support local authorities should make available to home educators in their area.

A handbook has also been developed with advice and support for people currently providing or considering home education for their children. The guidance also aims to ensure the support for home educators is consistent across Wales.

The Welsh Government plans to consult later this year on regulations to require local authorities to establish a database to help them identify children who are not registered at a school, or are not on an education otherwise than at school (EOTAS) register, and then to determine whether the children are receiving a suitable education.

<https://gov.wales/guidance-home-education-wales-published-consultation>
See consultations

New Action Plan on tackling child sexual abuse launched (15/07/19)

A new National Action Plan on tackling child sexual abuse has been published by the Welsh Government.

The plan sets out a new legal framework to strengthen safeguarding arrangements so that people at risk can be protected more effectively and is a part of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

The action plan was formed by considering evidence from children themselves and from adult survivors. Cross Party Group discussions on Preventing Child Sexual Abuse and evidence from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). ↗

The main aim of the plan is raise public awareness - getting the right information to children about speaking out and to prepare adults in their lives on being ready to listen. This will help to prevent abuse and protect children.

The plan outlines further training for practitioners to equip them with the relevant skills.

<https://gov.wales/new-action-plan-tackling-child-sexual-abuse-launched>
<https://gov.wales/preventing-and-responding-child-sexual-abuse-national-action-plan>

Prime Minister orders urgent action to improve vaccination uptake

(18/08/19)

Prime Minister Boris Johnson orders urgent action to improve vaccination uptake after more than 230 cases of measles were reported in the UK during first quarter of 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-orders-urgent-action-to-improve-vaccination-uptake>

Special #knifefree chicken boxes launched across the country

(14/08/19)

Special chicken boxes warning young people about the dangers of carrying a knife are being introduced in chicken shops across Britain, the policing minister has announced today.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/special-knifefree-chicken-boxes-launched-across-the-country>

Consultations

Assessing risk of harm to children and parents in private law children cases (19/07/19)

A public call for evidence on how the family courts protect children and parents in private law children cases concerning domestic abuse and other serious offences.

The call for evidence will specifically focus on the application of Practice Direction 12J, Practice Direction 3AA, The Family Procedure Rules Part 3A, and s.91(14) orders, and will build a more detailed understanding of any harm caused to parents and/or children during or following private law children proceedings. The overarching aim of the call for evidence is to better understand how effectively the family courts respond to allegations of domestic abuse and other serious offences in private law children cases, having regard to both the process and outcomes for the parties and the children.

The panel would like to hear from people who have direct experience as parties in private law children cases, as well as from those who provide support services to parents involved in such cases, and from professionals who practise such cases.

The panel are particularly keen to receive evidence of any harm caused to children and/or parents during or following private law children proceedings, where there are allegations and/or evidence of

domestic abuse or of other crimes creating a risk of harm to children or parents (such as child abuse, rape, sexual assault or murder).

Closing date: 26th August 2019

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/assessing-risk-of-harm-to-children-and-parents-in-private-law-children-cases>
<https://consult.justice.gov.uk/digital-communications/assessing-harm-private-family-law-proceedings/>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/domestic-abuse-survivors-invited-to-shape-future-of-family-court>

Safeguarding children from child sexual exploitation (15/07/19)

We want your views on guidance to safeguard children under 18 from CSE.

This guidance assists those planning for and working with children to:

- identify and prevent abuse
- protect children
- meet the needs of those at risk or abuse.

Closing date: 7th October 2019

<https://gov.wales/safeguarding-children-child-sexual-exploitation>

Consultations (continued)

Home education: statutory guidance for local authorities and handbook for home educators (29/07/19)

We are seeking your views on draft statutory guidance to help LAs identify children not at school and to ensure they are receiving a suitable education.

We are consulting on:

1. Draft statutory guidance to support LAs to assess the suitability of education provided to children who are;
 - not on any school roll,
 - not in education other than at school (EOTAS), and
 - not receiving a suitable education
2. A handbook of advice and information for home educating families or those thinking of home educating.

Closing date: 21st October 2019

<https://gov.wales/home-education-statutory-guidance-local-authorities-and-handbook-home-educators>

<https://gov.wales/written-statement-consultation-statutory-guidance-local-authorities-home-education-and-handbook>



Home to school travel and transport: statutory guidance (19/07/19)

The Department for Education is consulting on revised statutory guidance for local authorities on home to school travel and transport for children of compulsory school age (5-16). The guidance was last updated in 2014. There have been no changes to the law.

The revised guidance seeks to clarify local authorities' statutory duties in relation to home to school travel and transport policy, in response to feedback from local authorities and other interested parties.

The policy for transport to post-16 education and training is different from that of children of compulsory school age, and as such is not included within this consultation.

Closing date: 31st October 2019

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/home-to-school-travel-and-transport-statutory-guidance>
<https://consult.education.gov.uk/home-to-school-transport-and-admissions-team/home-to-school-travel-and-transport-statutory-guid/>

Consultations (continued)

Offensive Weapons Act 2019: draft statutory guidance (15/08/19)

The statutory guidance sets out how the legislation should be implemented and applied, the obligations imposed under the act, and what factors should be taken into account when making decisions on how to proceed with individual cases of the possession, sale and delivery of knives, corrosives and offensive weapons, and the use of these to threaten others.

The guidance is primarily for the police, retailers and trading standards. However, it will also be of interest to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service, manufacturers and suppliers of bladed articles, bladed products and corrosives, and members of the public.

The Offensive Weapons Act, which received Royal Assent on 16 May 2019, requires the Secretary of State to produce statutory guidance which covers the implementation of certain measures within the act in England and Wales. It also covers the implementation of sections 1 to 4 of the act, in respect of the sale and delivery of corrosive products, in Scotland.

Closing date: 9th October 2019

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/offensive-weapons-act-2019-draft-statutory-guidance>

Knife Crime Prevention Orders (KCPOs): guidance (15/08/19)

We would like you to share your thoughts with us on the draft guidance we've produced in relation to the operation of, and application for, new Knife Crime Prevention Orders.

The Offensive Weapons Act 2019 introduces KCPOs. These new preventative civil Orders will be an additional tool that the police will be able to use to work with young people and adults to encourage them to help steer them away from knife crime and serious violence.

KCPOs will help to divert those who may be carrying knives, or who are at greatest risk of being drawn into serious violence, away from being involved in knife crime. They will also help to prevent those who have been involved in knife crime from further offending when used following a conviction.

The guidance is intended to be used by the police and CPS but will also be of interest to the judiciary and groups that represent young people and adults within the criminal justice system.

Closing date: 25th September 2019

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/knife-crime-prevention-orders-kcpos-guidance>

Conferences

Improving Infant Health And Wellbeing Outcomes

4th December 2019 London

£299 - £550 + VAT

While children's services in the UK have steadily improved over the last decade, many health and social concerns remain.

In February 2019, The Health and Social Care Select Committee published their *First 1000 Days of Life* report, examining the effect of socio-economic inequalities, children's services provision and quality of care on children's outcomes. The committee found that stresses against the ability of parents to provide a secure, healthy, nurturing environment during the early years of a child's life, often caused by poverty and deprivation, adversely affect outcomes and recommended the implementation of a national strategy to tackle this.

Following this inquiry, the Government launched the *Advancing Our Health: Prevention in the 2020s* consultation document, which sets out the Government's vision for improving provision to parents and young children. Additionally, the DWP continue to work to help workless families, a key target group for improved services and support.

These Government publications have increasingly called for an integrated approach to children's services, urging



LAs, NHS Trusts, housing associations, and community organisations to work together, share information and offer joined-up services to families with young children.

This event will provide an invaluable opportunity to hear the latest policy updates and initiatives from senior policymakers in addition to a range of best-practice case studies from across the public sector, demonstrating successfully proven approaches to improving maternity and children's services.

<https://www.governmentevents.co.uk/event/infant-health-wellbeing-child-early-years/>

Child Sexual Exploitation Conference 2020

30th January 2020 London

£299 - £550 + VAT

This 2nd annual event will give an update on progress of the latest government reforms and initiatives by organisations working to tackle CSE. It also provides real practical examples of how the issue of CSE is being successfully addressed by local government, education and the police.

<https://www.governmentevents.co.uk/event/children-sexual-exploitation-preventing-protecting-vulnerable/>

Conferences (continued)

Voluntary Sector Compliance, Regulation and Standards: The Way Forward

24th September 2019

London

£299 - £550 + VAT

This forum will provide attendees with an opportunity to hear the latest initiatives from charities and regulators alike, as well as gain a greater understanding of existing regulations in the voluntary sector and what charities can do to improve their own implementation of these strategies.

Participants will be able to listen to case studies demonstrating successful approaches to improve different areas of regulation in the voluntary sector, including: financial transparency, whistleblowing, and safeguarding of children, along with guidance as to how they can apply these approaches within their own organisations.

<https://www.governmentevents.co.uk/event/voluntary-sector-compliance-regulation-and-standards-the-way-forward/>



This newsletter collates information from various sources that is relevant to safeguarding children. Anyone working in this area who would like to be added to the circulation list can forward their details to – keithdriver@btinternet.com