

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION UPDATE - 286
18th July 2017**

**Update on school cladding safety checks
(13/07/17)**

Following the Grenfell fire, as part of the government's determination to ensure children's safety, schools, further education colleges and universities across the country have all been contacted and asked to carry out building checks to identify those that might require further investigation.

These checks have included asking those responsible for the safety of school buildings to identify where external cladding has been used on buildings and its type. In line with a cross-government approach, any buildings with Aluminium Composite Material cladding above 18 metres will have samples of that cladding sent for testing to see what type it is.

As of today, cladding from two school buildings has been tested by the Building Research Establishment, the body carrying out checks on all buildings on behalf of the government.

Results of these two tests confirmed that the cladding was not of limited combustibility and the affected schools have been informed.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/update-on-school-cladding-safety-checks>



Secondary school staff get mental health 'first aid' training (27/06/17)

From June 2017, teachers in secondary schools around the country will take part in a new training programme to help them identify and respond to early signs of mental health issues in children.

The programme, delivered by the social enterprise Mental Health First Aid, will start with 1,000 staff and extend in years 2 and 3 to cover every secondary school in England. They will receive practical advice on how to deal with issues such as depression and anxiety, suicide and psychosis, self-harm, and eating disorders.

They will also be invited to become 'first aid champions', sharing their knowledge and experiences across schools and communities to raise awareness and break down stigma and discrimination.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secondary-school-staff-get-mental-health-first-aid-](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secondary-school-staff-get-mental-health-first-aid-training?utm_campaign=310207_June%20DH%20Monthly&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Department%20of%20Health&dm_i=3ZQO,6NCV,26E4C2,N763,1)

[training?utm_campaign=310207_June%20DH%20Monthly&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Department%20of%20Health&dm_i=3ZQO,6NCV,26E4C2,N763,1](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secondary-school-staff-get-mental-health-first-aid-training?utm_campaign=310207_June%20DH%20Monthly&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Department%20of%20Health&dm_i=3ZQO,6NCV,26E4C2,N763,1)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/primary-mental-health-training-for-teachers-will-make-a-real-difference-to-childrens-lives>

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/primary-mental-health-training-for-teachers-will-make-a-real-difference-to-](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/primary-mental-health-training-for-teachers-will-make-a-real-difference-to-childrens-lives)

£30m boost to projects supporting vulnerable young people (10/07/17)

A multi-million pound funding package to improve the lives of vulnerable children and young people around the country was announced on 6 July, by Robert Goodwill, Minister for Children and Families.

In his first address to the children's social care sector since being appointed as Minister, he confirmed that 24 projects will receive a share of £30m to take their important work forward.

The projects are part of the Children's Social Care Innovation Programme, which is backed by £200m of government funding. This programme has supported 95 projects to date, providing evidence of best practice that is helping to improve children's services across the country.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/30-million-boost-to-projects-supporting-vulnerable-young-people>

Safe families for children (14/07/17)

The safe families for children programme provides vulnerable families with 3 types of support:

- respite for children to live away from home for short periods
- friendship for the main carer
- resources to help make the family home a healthy environment

This research evaluates the programme in English LAs between January 2015 and March 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-families-for-children>



Childminder agencies: a guide

(13/07/17)

Legal requirements and other issues to consider for anyone registering or operating as a childminder agency.

Childminder agencies register childminders and help them with training, business support, advice and finding parents. Parents can use childminder agencies to find a childminder.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childminder-agencies-a-guide>

Child death reviews: year ending 31 March 2017 (13/07/17)

Child death reviews completed during the year, including modifiable factors, child characteristics and circumstances of the death.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/child-death-reviews-year-ending-31-march-2017>

Pupils and their parents or carers omnibus survey (11/07/17)

A summary of wave 1 and 2 responses to questions asked in the pupils and their parents or carers omnibus survey.

Topics covered include:

- parental involvement in pupils' learning
- changes to the school day
- mental health and wellbeing
- changes at school
- plans for the future
- bullying
- life outside of studies
- pupils with special educational needs and disabilities

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupils-and-their-parents-or-carers-omnibus-wave-1-survey>

Daybreak family group conferencing

(06/07/17)

Report on the effect of family group conferencing on families who had received a letter of intent to start care proceedings.

The Daybreak project aimed to:

- improve the quality of FGCs
- reduce court costs and delays
- include children in decision making
- divert children from care when safe to do so

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/daybreak-family-group-conferencing>

'No Wrong Door' innovation programme: evaluation

(06/07/17)

A report on the programme's effect on improving support for young people who are in care or on the edge of care.

Evaluation of a programme aimed to improve accommodation, education, employment and training (EET), and to reduce high-risk behaviour in young people.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-wrong-door-innovation-programme-evaluation>

'Signs of safety' practice in children's services: an evaluation

(06/07/17)

An evaluation of a project piloted in 10 LAs that aims to improve:

- the quality of direct social work with children, young people and their families
- partnership work with parents and families that recognises their strengths and uses these as part of any intervention
- the quality of planning to support the safety of children and young people



- the skills and confidence of the social work workforce

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/signs-of-safety-practice-in-childrens-services-an-evaluation>

Social care: 'Pause' programme

(06/07/17)

Evaluation of Pause, a voluntary programme for women who have experienced, or are at risk of, repeat removals of children from their care.

The project aimed to reduce the number of children being removed into care and improve the health and wellbeing of the women in the programme.

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

Further Research and Analysis

(06 - 12/07/17)

[Independent state school partnerships \(ISSP\): evaluation](#)

[Early education use and child outcomes up to age 3](#)

[Pupils and their parents or carers omnibus survey](#)

[School census 2017 to 2018: guide for schools and LAs](#)

[Daybreak family group conferencing](#)

[Family Safeguarding Hertfordshire: an evaluation](#)

[Durham County Council's Families First programme: an evaluation](#)

[Islington 'Doing What Counts: Measuring What Matters' evaluation](#)

[Cornerstone adoption support programme: evaluation](#)

[Early years census 2018: technical specification](#)

[Early years census 2018: guide](#)
[CLA return 2017 to 2018: technical specification](#)
[Compass service evaluation](#)
[Scaling and deepening the reclaiming social work model](#)
[Multisystemic therapy for adolescent problematic sexual behaviour](#)
[Multisystemic therapy: family integrated transitions](#)
[Leeds Family Valued programme](#)
[Children in need: Project Crewe](#)
[Enfield family and adolescent support service](#)
[Cambridgeshire's multi-systemic therapy service](#)
[Implementation evaluation of Doncaster Children's Services Trust](#)
[Newcastle city council's family insights programme](#)
[Family support: Windsor and Maidenhead innovation programme](#)
[Wigan's 'Share service' project](#)
['Stockport family' children's services project](#)
[Evaluation of the Gloucestershire innovation project](#)
[Belhaven residential care project](#)
[Innovation in social care assessments for disabled children](#)
[Evaluation of the Sefton community adolescent service](#)
['Extended HOPE' project](#)

Participation in education, training and employment: 2016 (29/06/17)

Updates to the national participation figures from SFR22/2016 released in June 2016 and provisional estimates for the end of 2016.

This statistical first release gives



information from different post-16 learning options, including: Schools; FE colleges; work-based learning (apprenticeships); higher education. It also gives provisional data on the percentages of 16- to 18-year-olds in education and training, and those who are NEET for end 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/participation-in-education-training-and-employment-2016>

Guidance - Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in schools

(19/06/17)

How schools can buy, install and maintain an automated external defibrillator.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/automated-external-defibrillators-aeds-in-schools>

Guidance for schools on preventing and responding to bullying (04/07/17)

The main guidance applies to all schools and may also be useful for FE and community settings.

The additional guidance documents cover:

- how schools can prevent and respond to cyber bullying aimed at headteachers and staff
- how parents and carers can prevent and respond to cyber bullying aimed at children and young people

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>

Family Restoration Fund gets extra funding (07/07/17)

The DH has announced a £2m increase in its funding of the Family Restoration Fund, which is administered by the Child Migrants Trust.

Health Minister Jackie Doyle-Price said:

7 years on from the national apology, the Government continues to remember the suffering endured by so many people as a result of child migration programmes. I am pleased that we have been able to extend the Family Restoration Fund, enabling more people to be helped.

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse is working to ensure that justice is done for all victims of abuse. Its focus on the child migration schemes allows us to learn important lessons from the events of the past, to ensure that we never forget former child migrants and their families.

The Family Restoration Fund was launched in 2010 at the formal national apology to British former child migrants. So far, it has helped more than 1,000 former child migrants to be reunited with their families.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/family-restoration-fund-gets-2-million-extra-funding>

Consultation outcome - Allowing schools to hold spare adrenaline auto-injectors (06/07/17)

The responses received were supportive of changing the law to allow schools to hold spare AAs, without a prescription, for use in emergencies. ↗

The government therefore laid before Parliament on 5 July 2017 the Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/allowing-schools-to-hold-spare-adrenaline-auto-injectors>

Facilities for child and adolescent mental health services (HBN 03-02) (30/06/17)

This guidance covers the design of child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) accommodation for children and young people aged up to 18 years.

It provides full descriptions of rooms that are specific to CAMHS and are not contained in other health building notes.

You can use the schedule of accommodation to calculate local project-specific requirements.

You can use the stakeholder needs and quality of life checklists to assess scheme compliance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/facilities-for-child-and-adolescent-mental-health-services-hbn-03-02>

Further funding to tackle gang related violence (12/07/17)

The HO is providing almost £100,000 new funding to tackle the issues around gang violence. This funding will allow the expansion of local area reviews and targeted support offered as part of the government's ongoing commitment to Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-further-funding-to-tackle-gang-related-violence>

New drug strategy to safeguard vulnerable and stop substance misuse

(14/07/17)

The Home Secretary has launched the government's new drug strategy, to reduce illicit drug use and increase the rate of individuals recovering from drug dependence.

Each year in the UK, drugs cost society £10.7b in policing, healthcare and crime, with drug-fuelled theft alone costing £6b a year. Research shows that for every £1 spent on treatment, an estimated £2.50 is saved.

In 2015/16, 2.7m – over 8% – of 16-59-year-olds in England and Wales took illegal drugs. This is down from 10.5% a decade ago, but new threats are emerging including new psychoactive substances such as 'spice', image and performance enhancing drugs, 'chemsex' drugs and misuse of prescribed medicines.

The new strategy confronts these threats and sets out new action to protect the most vulnerable, including the homeless, victims of domestic abuse and those with mental health issues.

The comprehensive new approach brings the police, health and local partners together to support those most at risk. The strategy includes measures to:

- reduce demand: through deterrent work including an expansion of the Alcohol and Drugs Education and Prevention Information Service for young people
- restrict supply: by pursuing a strong law enforcement response and dismantling trafficking networks



- support recovery: a new National Recovery Champion will be appointed to make sure adequate housing, employment and mental health services are available to help people turn their lives around
- drive international action: an international strand is included for the first time, setting out action to strengthen controls at our borders, understand global trends and share intelligence

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-drug-strategy-to-safeguard-vulnerable-and-stop-substance-misuse>

Home Secretary awards £17m to tackle violence against women and girls

(05/07/17)

Amber Rudd has announced more than 40 projects will share around £17m from the VAWG Service Transformation Fund to help prevent violence against women and girls.

The 41 projects across England and Wales will carry out a range of activities including providing support to victims, working with perpetrators of abuse to change their behaviour and helping to support children affected by what they have witnessed.

Specialist help will be made available for the most vulnerable victims, including providing support for those with complex needs, including those with substance misuse problems or poor mental health.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-awards-17m-to-tackle-violence-against-women-and-girls>

Youth custody data (14/07/17)

Monthly statistics on the population in custody of children and young people within the secure estate.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-custody-data>

Impact evaluation of the prison-based Core Sex Offender Treatment Programme (30/06/17)

The programme is intended to reduce sexual reoffending among participants by identifying and addressing known criminogenic needs.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/impact-evaluation-of-the-prison-based-core-sex-offender-treatment-programme>

Family Court statistics quarterly: January to March 2017 (29/06/17)

Statistics relating to family courts.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/family-court-statistics-quarterly-january-to-march-2017>

Update on Metropolitan Police Service child protection (20/07/17)

HMIC has published the first quarterly update on the MPS's preparedness to deal with child protection issues.

HMIC, Matt Parr, said:

“As a result of our report into child protection in the MPS in December 2016, in which we found fundamental deficiencies, the Home Secretary asked HMIC for quarterly reports, detailing the MPS's progress against the recommendations we made.

“Today we are publishing our preliminary assessment of whether the force's action

plans, combined with continuing discussions with MPS officers about the findings, showed the right level of focus and prioritisation of activity to improve child protection services.

“We have reviewed the action the MPS has taken to improve its responses to children in need of protection. New leadership structures and comprehensive action plans have been established and we conclude that the force demonstrates a much greater understanding of the issues we identified. Over our next three reports we will assess how effectively these plans are translated into a better service for children in London who come into contact with the police.”

<http://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmic/news/news-feed/update-on-metropolitan-police-service-child-protection-published/>

Schools should better support pupils in learning how to develop safe, respectful personal relationships (23/06/17)

Schools do not allocate enough time or importance to providing learning experiences and support for pupils to develop safe, respectful personal relationships. A report found that the content and delivery of this area of personal and social education varies too widely in schools across Wales.

In particular, schools do not prepare pupils well enough to live in a diverse society e.g. by teaching them about forms of violence against women such as FGM and honour-based violence.

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/news/schools-should-better-support-pupils-learning-how-develop-safe-respectful-personal>

Tracking child trafficking cases: what we've learnt (29/06/17)

Findings from a small-scale study of cases involving child trafficking concerns

The study looks at what we can learn from cases where Family Court Advisers (FCAs) had identified concerns about trafficking. This is part of their work to collate learning around the vulnerabilities for children in these situations and develop a unified approach to address the risks.

The study looked at 82 cases identified by FCAs, concerning 97 subject children. 70% of children in the sample were female and there were additional concerns about CSE for 44% of children.

Two key findings from the study are that:

- suspected cases of child trafficking can come to Cafcass via private law applications
- there are a number of children identified as potential victims of both CSE and trafficking.

<https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/news/2017/june/tracking-child-trafficking-cases-what-we%E2%80%99ve-learnt.aspx>

'The Children's Commissioner's Report on measuring the number of vulnerable children' (04/07/17)

The Children's Commissioner for England has published new analysis that reveals the scale of vulnerability among children in England.

The Report brings together a range of information held by various government departments, agencies and others.



Its initial analysis reveals statistics about the number of children living in vulnerable situations.

- Almost 700,000 children are living in families that have vulnerabilities, including over 15,000 children living with an adult receiving alcohol treatment and nearly 12,000 living with an adult in drug treatment.
- 580,000 children – equivalent to the population of Manchester – are so vulnerable that the state has to step in and provide direct care, intervention or support.
- 370,000 children whose actions have put their futures at risk, including 160,000 children temporarily or permanently excluded from school in England.
- 800,000 children aged 5 to 17 suffer mental health disorders.
- 200,000 children are judged by their local authority to have experienced trauma or abuse.
- An estimated 46,000 children are thought to be part of a gang.
- 119,000 children are homeless or living in insecure or unstable housing.
- 170,000 children are estimated to do unpaid caring for family members, of which many have not been identified and offered support.
- 1,200 children are newly identified victims of modern slavery per year.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/2017/07/04/shocking-report-by-childrens-commissioner-reveals-millions-of-children-in-england-living-vulnerable-or-high-risk-lives/>

Independent Inquiry into CSA

Inquiry seminar: Impacts of CSA, support needs and support services - Day two summary (06/07/17)

Yesterday, the Chair and Panel heard testimony from victims and survivors and experts on the needs of child victims and the support services available to them.

On the second day of the seminar, Professor Lorraine Radford from the University of Central Lancashire, presented her report: What can be learned about preventing and responding to Child Sexual Abuse and sexual exploitation from other jurisdiction.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiry-seminar-impacts-csa-support-needs-and-support-services-day-two-summary>

Inquiry seminar: Impacts of CSA, support needs and support services - Day one summary (04/07/17)

Victims, survivors and experts talked about the impact of CSA during an Inquiry Seminar held today.

The Seminar, which is being held across 2 days, will enable the Inquiry to gather information and views for consideration.

A new Inquiry research report, The Impacts of CSA: A Rapid Evidence Assessment, published today, was also discussed by participants at the seminar.
<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiry-seminar-impacts-csa-support-needs-and-support-services-day-one-summary>



Public hearing in the Child Migration Programmes Case Study Part 2

(03/07/17)

The IICSA is continuing its investigation into allegations of CSA connected with the British child migration programmes. The Inquiry will be holding the second part of its public hearings to examine the institutional failings of organisations based in England and Wales.

The public hearings will take place at 10.30am between 10 and 21 July with a final sitting day on 26 July. The Inquiry will hear evidence from a number of institutions, including government departments, public authorities and private or charitable institutions based in England and Wales on whether they took sufficient care to protect children they sent or placed abroad, from CSA.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/public-hearing-child-migration-programmes-case-study-part-2>

Inquiry opens core participant application for internet investigation

(29/06/17)

The Inquiry is now accepting core participant applications in relation to the response of law enforcement agencies to CSA facilitated by the internet. This represents the first strand of the investigation into the nature and extent of the use of the internet and other digital communications technology to facilitate CSA.

As defined by legislation, core participants have rights in the Inquiry process including receiving disclosure of documentation, being represented and

making legal submissions and suggesting questions, and receiving advance notice of the Inquiry's report.

It is not necessary to be a core participant in order to provide evidence to the Inquiry.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiry-opens-core-participant-application-internet-investigation>

Inquiry meets with BAME women organisations to promote the Truth Project (27/06/17)

On 28/06/17 the IICSA is meeting with women from Asian backgrounds to raise awareness of the Inquiry and its Truth Project.

The Inquiry will ask Asian women, and organisations supporting women from BAME backgrounds, how it can understand and overcome barriers which prevent them from coming forward and sharing their experience of child sexual abuse with its Truth Project.

The Inquiry will encourage those Asian women who have experienced sexual abuse in childhood and failed by an institution when they reported it, to share their experiences with the Truth Project - private sessions in which victim and survivor accounts are heard.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiry-meets-bame-women-organisations-promote-truth-project>

Mark Sutton QC publishes his review (03/07/17)

Mark Sutton QC has issued a public statement on his report into the Inquiry's

safeguarding and dignity at work procedures.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/mark-sutton-qc-publishes-his-review>

The Inquiry's Truth Project opens in Rochdale (29/06/17)

This July the Truth Project, part of the IICSA, will hear directly from victims and survivors of CSA in Rochdale.

The Truth Project gives individuals who were failed by an institution a unique opportunity to tell the Inquiry in confidence about their experiences of CSA. Victims and survivors are also invited to make suggestions about what can be done to stop children being sexually abused in the future.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquirys-truth-project-opens-rochdale>

Kirsty Williams raises the issue of FGM with schools (07/07/17)

The Education Secretary is highlighting the important role schools can play in identifying potential victims and safeguarding them from FGM. Statutory guidance, Keeping learners safe is in place to support schools and education services in ensuring that child welfare concerns are acted upon appropriately and effectively, involving investigating agencies where necessary.

The Welsh Government has also produced a range of materials and guidance available on Hwb to support schools in managing child protection issues.

<http://gov.wales/newsroom/educationandskills/2017/kirsty-williams-raises-the-issue-of-fgm-with-schools/?lang=en>

Constipation in children and young people: diagnosis and management (July 2017)

This guideline covers diagnosing and managing constipation in children and young people up to 18. It provides strategies to support the early identification and timely, effective treatment of constipation which will help improve outcomes for patients. It does not cover constipation caused by a specific condition.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg99>

Adalimumab, etanercept and ustekinumab for treating plaque psoriasis in children and young people (12/07/17)

Evidence-based recommendations on adalimumab (Humira), etanercept (Enbrel) and ustekinumab (Stelara) for plaque psoriasis in children and young people.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta455>

Parents urged to remind teenagers to get MenACWY vaccine (05/07/17)

PHE is calling for more take up of the MenACWY vaccine in eligible young people, which protects against deadly meningitis and septicaemia.

Parents are being reminded this summer to encourage their 18 year old children to get vaccinated against deadly meningitis and septicaemia. Those who are due to leave school this summer, or aged 17 to 18 and are not in school are now eligible.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/parents-urged-to-remind-teenagers-to-get-menacwy-vaccine>



CSE: prevention and intervention (11/07/17)

Evidence summary and framework to support local public health leaders to prevent and intervene early in cases of CSE.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-sexual-exploitation-prevention-and-intervention>

Routine childhood immunisation schedule (07/07/17)

Information for health professionals on childhood immunisations.

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

National child measurement programme: data sharing and analysis (05/07/17)

Guidance for LAs and other organisations who want to analyse NCMP data.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-child-measurement-programme-data-sharing-and-analysis>

Immunisations for young people (04/07/17)

Explains the HPV, Td/IPV and MenACWY vaccinations given to young people 11 - 19 (school years 7 to 13).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immunisations-for-young-people>

Childhood immunisation: quick guide for parents of premature babies (04/07/17)

A leaflet for parents.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-quick-guide-to-childhood-immunisation-for-the-parents-of-premature-babies>

Pre-school vaccinations: guide to vaccinations from 2 to 5 years

(03/07/17)

Details of immunisations for children between 2 and 5 years, before they start school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pre-school-vaccinations-a-guide-to-vaccinations-from-2-to-5-years>

Immunisations at one year of age

(30/06/17)

A leaflet to remind you to get your child immunised at one year of age.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immunisations-between-12-and-13-months-of-age>

Immunisations: babies up to 13 months of age (29/06/17)

This booklet covers all immunisations for babies up to 13 months of age.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-guide-to-immunisations-for-babies-up-to-13-months-of-age>

National child measurement programme operational guidance

(29/06/17)

Guidance for local commissioners, providers and schools on running the NCMP.

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

Public Health Wales working in partnership with the Children's Commissioner for Wales (23/06/17)

Listening to children and respecting their rights could help improve health services, according to speakers at an event hosted jointly by Public Health Wales and the

Children's Commissioner for Wales.

The inaugural Annual Child Health Seminar brought together senior representatives from across the Welsh NHS to discuss putting children's rights at the heart of planning and practice.

The event was an opportunity to reflect on 'The Right Way', a framework developed by the Commissioner to help public bodies put children's rights at the core of their planning and practice.

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/888/news/45251>

SI 2017/710 - The Education (School Inspection) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 (30/06/17)

The Education Act 2005 sets out the statutory framework for school inspections. The Education (School Inspection) (Wales) Regulations 2006 sets out much of that detail.

Para 6 of Schedule 4 to the 2005 Act requires the appropriate authority (defined in s43 of the 2005 Act) for the school to hold a meeting between the inspector who is conducting the inspection and parents of registered pupils at the school.

Regulation 8 of the 2006 Regulations prescribes the detail of the arrangements for that meeting. In particular, regulation 8(a) provides that the meeting must take place before the time when the inspection is to begin. These Regulations amend regulation 8(a) so that the meeting must take place no later than the end of the second working day following the start of the inspection (regulation 2(a)).

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/710/contents/made>

Amanda Spielman's speech at the Association of Directors of Children's Services conference (07/07/17)

Ofsted's Chief Inspector talks about the importance of supportive leadership and the future of local authority children's services inspections.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/amanda-spielman-s-speech-at-the-association-of-directors-of-childrens-services-conference>

Joint inspections of the response to children experiencing neglect: May to December 2017 (14/07/17)

Guidance for inspectors and inspection reports for joint targeted area inspections of local area services.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/joint-inspections-of-the-response-to-children-experiencing-neglect-may-to-december-2017>

Changes to children's social care services registered and/or inspected by Ofsted (12/09/17)

Information for registered providers of children's social care services who want to request a change to their conditions of registration.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-childrens-social-care-services-that-are-registered-and-or-inspected-by-ofsted>

School inspection update: academic year 2016 to 2017 (07/07/17)

These updates for inspectors and stakeholders contain information and guidance about Ofsted's inspection work in schools.

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

Welfare and duty of care in Armed Forces initial training (04/07/17)

Ofsted's annual reports on the effectiveness of welfare and duty of care for recruits and trainees in Armed Forces initial training.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/welfare-and-duty-of-care-in-armed-forces-initial-training>

Maintained schools and academies inspections and outcomes as at 31 March 2017 (29/06/17)

This data on maintained schools and academies covers January to March 2017 (provisional) and September to December 2016 (revised).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/maintained-schools-and-academies-inspections-and-outcomes-as-at-31-march-2017>

Further education and skills inspections and outcomes as at 28 February 2017 (28/06/17)

Data for inspection outcomes as at 28 February 2017 including data for inspections conducted between September 2016 and February 2017.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/further-education-and-skills-inspections-and-outcomes-as-at-28-february-2017>

Local area SEND inspection outcome letters (22/06/17)

Outcome letters from inspections of local area services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-outcome-letters>

Social care online questionnaires: guidance for providers (19/06/17)

Guidance for social care providers about distributing the 2017 online questionnaires and a poster to use to promote the questionnaires.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-care-online-questionnaires-guidance-for-providers>

How Ofsted will select new schools for inspection (16/06/17)

Information on how Ofsted will select new schools, including academies and free schools, for inspection starting from the 2015 to 2016 academic year.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-ofsted-will-inspect-academy-schools-including-free-schools>

Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 March 2017 (14/06/17)

This release includes registered childcare providers and places, inspection outcomes, and joiners and leavers as at 31 March 2017.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-march-2017>

How safe are our children? 2017 (21/07/17)

This year's report explains what the available data tells us about the current child protection landscape. It also highlights our call for a new UK-wide prevalence survey to give the clearest possible picture of the extent of child abuse and neglect.

In recent years there has been an increase in emotional abuse as a reason for 

children being on a child protection plan or register in England and Wales, and increasing numbers of contacts to the NSPCC helpline about the issue.

There has been an increase in public reporting of child abuse. In 2016/17 the NSPCC helpline responded to its highest ever number of contacts.

There have also been increases in police-recorded child sexual offences and indecent image offences across the UK and increases in child cruelty and neglect offences in all UK nations except Scotland.

The last decade has also seen increased numbers of children on child protection plans and registers and increased numbers of looked after children in the UK.

But, without a new survey of child maltreatment prevalence we lack a clear picture of the extent of child abuse and neglect today. That's why we are calling on the UK Government to commission a new UK-wide study.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/services-and-resources/research-and-resources/2017/how-safe-are-our-children-2017/>

Anti-Bullying Week

13th – 17th November 2017

Anti-Bullying Week shines a spotlight on bullying and encourages all children, teachers and parents to take action against bullying throughout the year.

The theme this year is 'All Different, All Equal'. Its aims are to:

- empower children and young people to celebrate what makes them, and others, unique
- help children and young people understand how important it is that every child feels valued and included in school, able to be themselves, without fear of bullying
- encourage parents and carers to work with their school and talk to their children about bullying, difference and equality
- enable teachers, school support staff and youth workers to celebrate what makes us 'all different, all equal' – by celebrating difference and equality and taking individual and collective action to prevent bullying, creating safe environments where children can be themselves.

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-all-different-all-equal/anti-bullying-week-17>



Consultations

A single inspection of voluntary adoption agencies

(10/07/17)

This consultation seeks your views on proposed changes to the inspection of voluntary adoption agencies.

We propose that:

- all voluntary adoption agencies will receive one inspection in a 3-year period and one overall judgement irrespective of the number of premises they use
- the notice period for the inspection of voluntary adoption agencies is reduced from 10 working days to 2 working days

Closing date: 4th August 2017

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/a-single-inspection-of-voluntary-adoption-agencies>

Short inspections of good schools

(15/06/17)

This consultation seeks your views on proposals for changes to the short inspection approach for good maintained schools and academies and outstanding and good maintained nurseries, special schools and pupil referral units from October 2017.

Closing date: 18th August 2017

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/short-inspections-of-good-schools>

Ofsted launches point-in-time questionnaires (19/06/17)

Ofsted has issued its annual point-in-time questionnaires to children's social services. The questionnaires are for parents and carers, as well as children and young people.

The questionnaires are about children's homes, fostering services, adoption agencies, adoption support agencies and residential family centres.

Ofsted inspectors want to hear what children and young people, staff, social workers and other professionals have to say about these services. Their responses will help inform future inspections.

Questions for children and young people include:

- do staff look after you well?
- do you feel safe in your children's home?
- can you talk to staff about how you feel?

Questions for parents and carers include:

- can your child take part in activities that interest them?
- are your child's health needs met?
- does your child have good relationships with the staff at the home?

Closing date: 13th August 2017

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofsted-launches-point-in-time-questionnaires>



Consultations (continued)

Cafcass Operating Framework

(03/07/17)

Cafcass is updating its Operating Framework.

The Cafcass Operating Framework was first introduced in 2012, to set out what we do and how we use our resources effectively and proportionately. This helps us to provide a consistent service to the children and families referred to us.

The updated Operating Framework reflects current working practices and the developments in our work since the Framework was last updated in 2014, with a focus on continuous improvement. This focus includes boxes at the start of each chapter, setting out our ambitions and suggesting what 'outstanding' practice might look like.

We welcome comments from stakeholders and other interested parties, ahead of the full launch in August.

Closing date: 31st July 2017

<https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/news/2017/july/updated-the-cafcass-operating-framework.aspx>

https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/media/318393/operating_framework_for_comment_july_2017.pdf

Criminal Justice Joint Inspection programme consultation 2017 – 2018

The four Criminal Justice inspectorates have published a consultation which sets out the proposed joint inspection activity in the criminal justice system for 2017 to 2018.

The Joint Secretariat welcomes any comments about the proposed work and, in particular, answers to the following questions:

- Do any programmes of work duplicate, overlap or clash with inspections or other work you have planned (or are otherwise aware of) for 2017/18?
- Are there any other subject areas which you believe warrant inclusion in our criminal justice joint inspection programme?

Closing date: 24th July 2017

<http://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/news/news-feed/criminal-justice-joint-inspection-programme-consultation-2017-18/>



Conferences

Child Safeguarding: Implementing the Wood Report and the New Statutory Framework

27th September 2017 London
£195 - £295 + VAT

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 contains major reforms to child safeguarding. Agencies must change their local structures to address failings in the system, highlighted in the Wood Report. Headline measures include new statutory arrangements to replace LSCBs.

Attend this Westminster Briefing to hear from Stephanie Brivio OBE, Deputy Director, Children's Services, DfE and receive an up-to-date brief of the Government reforms.

Key Issues to be Addressed:

- The Children and Social Work Act: understanding Government action and implementing reform
- Implementing the Wood Report recommendations and replacing the existing structure of LSCBs
- New arrangements between health services, the police and local government
- Ensuring an effective and safe transition to the new statutory framework
- Learning from successful models of local safeguarding arrangements
- Changing the culture of child safeguarding
- Working with the third sector and other agencies to develop your local plan

<http://www.westminster-briefing.com/ChildSafeguarding2017>



Early Help: Challenges, Opportunities and Innovation

27th September 2017 London
£249 - £549 + VAT

This conference is an essential gathering of professionals across different agencies who are committed to sharing ideas, innovation, challenges and best practice.

The 2017 event will bring together the latest high-level thinking, practical insight and understanding of what works in different contexts, circumstances and settings.

Keynote sessions will provide expert insight on:

- Refocusing resources strategically on early help and prevention amid rising pressures on children's social care
- The role of systems leadership in reshaping the public service "tanker" towards earlier intervention in supporting children at risk
- Closing the achievement gap, and breaking the link between family income and educational attainment
- New approaches in working with the police and partner agencies to support children and families

<http://www.earlyhelpconference.com/home>

Conferences (continued)

Child Protection in Education 2017

13th September 2017 London

19th September 2017 Bristol

5th October 2017 Manchester

£309 - £469 + VAT

With new safeguarding threats, constant amendments to safeguarding legislation, and Ofsted scrutinising your safeguarding practice in even greater depth It is crucial to have tools and knowledge to meet your legal obligations and protect your students.

What can I expect?

- **Legal update:** Hear from top education lawyers and gain clarification on your safeguarding responsibilities for 2017/18
- **Online safety:** Understand how online safety is linked to all other safeguarding areas and how to ensure your students understand the risks
- **Mental Health:** Gain strategies to ensure meaningful support is offered to all students suffering from mental health difficulties

<http://my.optimus-education.com/conferences/child-protection-education-2017-london>

<http://my.optimus-education.com/conferences/child-protection-education-2017-bristol>

<http://my.optimus-education.com/conferences/child-protection-education-2017-manchester>

National children and adult services conference and exhibition

11th – 13th October 2017

Bournemouth £450 + VAT

Organised by the LGA, ADASS) and ADCS, this is regularly attended by more than 1,000 delegates. It is widely recognised as the most important annual event of its kind for councillors, directors, senior officers, policymakers and service managers with responsibilities for children's services, adult care and health in the statutory, voluntary and private sectors.

Come along and share, engage, network and participate with your peers. You will leave informed, stimulated and motivated to develop and improve your offer to your communities.

<https://lgaevents.local.gov.uk/lga/frontend/reg/thome.csp?pageID=87561&eventID=289&traceRedir=2&eventID=289>

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