

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION UPDATE - 280
23rd November 2016**

**Supporting care leavers to thrive:
everyone's business (28/10/16)**

Edward Timpson's keynote speech at The Prince's Trust National Care Leavers' Week Conference 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/supporting-care-leavers-to-thrive-everyones-business>

Safeguarding unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee children (01/11/16)

Written ministerial statement by Edward Timpson about a safeguarding strategy for unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee children.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/safeguarding-unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-and-refugee-children>

Extra investment in social care (03/11/16)

In her first speech to the social care profession, Justine Greening set out her vision for giving vulnerable children the best possible chance of a successful future.

Children within the social care system are much more likely to be locked out from opportunities that would allow them to thrive, and this government is determined to address this by investing properly in the professionals who care for them.

The Education Secretary announced an additional £4.7m investment in the teaching partnership programme, aimed

at improving the education and training of social workers in 11 new areas across the country. She also invited LAs to nominate talented senior social workers to join the new Practice Leader Development programme.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/education-secretary-announces-extra-investment-in-social-care>

Government's proposals for a new regulator for social workers (03/11/16)

The Government are proposing a series of changes to the Children and Social Work Bill which will establish a new separate legal entity, Social Work England, as regulator of social workers.

Social Work England will:

- have a clear focus on professional regulation to ensure public protection
- operate at arm's length from government, ensuring an appropriate separation between the regulator and ministers
- have clear lines of accountability
- maintain a register of social workers
- run 'fitness to practise' hearings
- set initial education and training standards, and raise these over time
- set professional standards, and raise these over time

The bill also provides for independent oversight of Social Work England by the Professional Standards Authority.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/governments-proposals-for-a-new-regulator-for-social-workers>

Justine Greening: supporting social workers and our care system (03/11/16)

Education Secretary speaks about children's social care at the National Adult and Children's Services (NCAS) Conference 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/justine-greening-supporting-social-workers-and-our-care-system>

Ending Gang and Youth Violence programme (17/11/16)

This is an independent review of the Home Office's EGYV programme by Dr Simon Harding from the University of Middlesex. Dr Harding studied 20 local areas to understand the changes that the EGYV programme has had in those areas that participated in the programme over 3 years from 2012 to 2015.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ending-gang-and-youth-violence-programme-independent-review>

Child death overview panels: contacts (24/10/16)

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

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

SEND: experiences with schools and colleges (01/11/16)

Report on the experiences of children with SEND, and their parents, of schools and colleges.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-experiences-with-schools-and-colleges>



School attendance: guidance for schools (02/11/16)

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>

Characteristics of children in need: 2015 to 2016 (03/11/16)

Children referred to and assessed by children's social services for the year ending 31 March 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/characteristics-of-children-in-need-2015-to-2016>

'KEEP Standard' training programme for foster and kinship carers (03/11/16)

Review of training programme for foster and kinship carers to help them deal with difficult behaviour.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keep-standard-training-programme-for-foster-and-kinship-carers>

Mockingbird family model: evaluation (03/11/16)

Evaluation of the Mockingbird family model approach to supporting foster carers and the children placed with them.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mockingbird-family-model-evaluation>

North London children's efficiency programme: evaluation (03/11/16)

Evaluation of the NLCEP where 5 boroughs worked in partnership to improve care placement.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/north-london-childrens-efficiency-programme-evaluation>

Serious Case Review Panel: third report (04/11/16)

Report from national panel of independent experts on serious case reviews, covering July 2015 to June 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serious-case-review-panel-third-report>

Children's Social Care Innovation programme (07/11/16)

Programme to develop, test and share effective ways of supporting children who need help from social care services.

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

Induction for NQTs (09/11/16)

Statutory guidance on Newly Qualified Teacher inductions for headteachers, school staff and governing bodies.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/induction-for-newly-qualified-teachers-nqts>

Cloud software services: how schools should protect data (10/11/16)

Data protection guidance for schools considering using cloud software services ('the cloud') to hold sensitive information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cloud-software-services-and-the-data-protection-act>

Children in need census 2016 to 2017 (17/11/16)

Guide for LAs submitting data for the children in need census 2016 to 2017.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-in-need-census-2016-to-2017-guide>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-in-need-census-2016-to->

Children in need census 2017 to 2018 (17/11/16)

Guide for LAs submitting data for the children in need census 2017 to 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-in-need-census-2017-to-2018-guide>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-in-need-census-2017-to-2018-specification>

Youth custody data (11/11/16)

Monthly statistics on the population in custody of children and young people within secure children's homes (SCHs), secure training centres (STCs) and young offender institutions (YOIs).

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

MAPPAs annual reports (07/11/16)

Reports for each Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements area for 2015 to 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multi-agency-public-protection-arrangements-mappa-annual-reports-2015-to-2016>

New stop and search training and guidance for police (27/10/16)

Police officers across England and Wales will receive new training and guidance on the use of stop and search.

The training and guidance will give officers confidence to use their powers legally, fairly, professionally and transparently and help them recognise the potential for unconscious bias.

<http://www.college.police.uk/News/College-news/Pages/Stop-and-search-APP.aspx>

SI 2016/1043 - The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Duty to Co-operate with Commissioner) Regulations 2016
(04/11/16)

Section 43 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 places specified public authorities under a duty to co-operate with the Independent Anti-slavery Commissioner. These Regulations amend the list of specified public authorities under a duty to co-operate with the Commissioner in Schedule 3 to that Act by adding the Director of Labour Market Enforcement.
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2016/1043/contents/made>

DBS duty to refer and how to make a referral (11/11/16)

NHS Employers have created two podcasts in their series about the Disclosure and Barring Service.

In the first, Nyla Cooper from NHS employers and Lyn Gavin from the DBS chat about the legal duties to refer, with examples from the NHS and details on what to do if you're unsure.

The second is about the information you might need to give when making a referral, and why it's important for the DBS to have this level of information.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dbs-duty-to-refer-and-how-to-make-a-referral>

DBS update service: applicant guide
(26/10/16)

Guidance for the applicant about the DBS update service, how to join and how to renew a subscription to the service.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-update-service-applicant-guide>

Children in Custody 2015-16 (15/11/16)

An analysis of 12-18-year-olds' perceptions of their experiences in secure training centres and young offender institutions.

Nearly half of boys in young offender institutions have felt unsafe in custody at some point, said Peter Clarke, Chief Inspector of Prisons. This thematic report, commissioned by the Youth Justice Board, sets out how children describe their own experience of imprisonment.
<http://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/h miprisons/inspections/children-in-custody-2015-16/>
<http://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/h miprisons/media/press-releases/2016/11/fewer-children-in-custody-but-certain-groups-over-represented-and-many-dont-feel-safe-says-chief-inspector/>

Suicide prevention: developing a local action plan (25/10/16)

This document is part of PHE's ongoing programme of work to support the government's suicide prevention strategy.

The development of a local suicide action plan is recommended by government and supports the 2012 strategy Preventing suicide in England: A cross government outcomes strategy to save lives. This document advises LAs how to:

- develop a multi-agency suicide prevention partnership
- make sense of local and national data
- develop a suicide prevention strategy and action plan

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suicide-prevention-developing-a-local-action-plan>

Independent Inquiry into CSA

Inquiry Update: our progress so far
(31/10/16)

The Inquiry has launched an update on its work over the past 18 months. The update includes key milestones for the Truth Project, Research Project and Public Hearings Project and an overview of the work we have planned in the months ahead.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiry-update-our-progress-so-far>

Update on the investigation concerning institutional responses to allegations of CSA involving the late Lord Janner of Braunstone QC (16/11/16)

The Chair has decided to postpone the start date of 7 March 2017 for the oral hearing for the investigation concerning institutional responses to allegations of CSA involving the late Lord Janner of Braunstone QC. The preliminary hearing will also be postponed.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/update-investigation-concerning-institutional-responses-allegations-child-sexual-abuse>

The Inquiry is seeking bids from research bodies or institutions to carry out a literature review (17/11/16)

The IICSA Research Project is seeking to commission researchers to review the existing academic evidence about the characteristics and vulnerabilities of victims of online-facilitated CSA. A thorough and up to date understanding of this issue will help to determine how institutions have failed to adequately protect children from online CSA.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiry-seeking-bids-research-bodies-or-institutions-carry-out-literature-review-0> ↗

Inquiry publishes responses to Issues papers and announces dates for Inquiry Seminars (21/11/16)

The Inquiry has published the responses it received to Issues Papers as part of the Accountability and Reparations Investigation.

The Inquiry asked for submissions on Civil Justice System and Criminal Compensation and received responses to both issues papers from:

- Victims and Survivors directly
- Victim and Survivor organisations
- Legal representatives on behalf of complainant core participants
- Institutional core participants
- Local authorities
- The insurance industry
- other third sector organisations and interested parties.

The Inquiry will now hold a 2 day seminar in relation to the Civil Justice System in Central London on 29 and 30 November. This seminar will discuss key themes raised in response to the issues papers which will help inform future work for the Accountability and Reparation investigation.

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquiry-publishes-responses-issues-papers-and-announces-dates-inquiry-seminars>

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Serious incident notifications from LA children's services 2015 to 2016
(27/10/16)

Statistics covering notifications of incidents that affect children under 18. This includes serious harm and deaths.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/serious-incident-notifications-from-local-authority-childrens-services-2015-to-2016>

Shorter care proceedings has positive impact for children (17/11/16)

A study funded by Cafcass and the DfE has found a positive impact for children following the requirement for shorter family court care proceedings.

The research looked at cases in the Tri-borough area, comparing outcomes for children before and after the revised Public Law Outline in 2014 which introduced the 26-week timeline.

It found that, following the introduction of the target, more children ended up in stable placements and a clear focus on timeliness had a powerful effect throughout the system. It also found no evidence of some of the feared negative effects of the change, as there was no shift of delay to pre-court or post-court processes, no change to the numbers of children who were removed from their parents, and no impact on the number of problems following placements.

<https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/news/2016/november/shorter-care-proceedings-has-positive-impact-for-children.aspx>

Psychosis and schizophrenia in children and young people: recognition and management (October 2016)

This guideline covers recognising and managing psychosis and schizophrenia in children and young people. It aims to improve early recognition of psychosis and schizophrenia so that children and young people can be offered the treatment and care they need to live with the condition.

In October 2016, recommendation 1.3.19 and Table 1 were updated to remove 

reference to hip circumference percentile charts.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg155>

NICE Pathway - Attachment difficulties in children and young people (October 2016)

This quality standard covers the identification, assessment and treatment of attachment difficulties. It focusses on children and young people up to age 18:

- on the edge of care (those considered to be at high risk of going into care)
- looked after by local authorities in foster homes (including kinship foster care)
- in special guardianship
- adopted from care
- in residential settings and other accommodation.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs133>

Childhood Flu Vaccination Programme in primary school age children (02/11/16)

User guide for the data collection of Childhood Flu Vaccination Programme in primary school age children 2016 to 2017.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childhood-flu-vaccination-programme-in-primary-school-age-children>

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Guidance on Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (14/11/16)

Guidance for police and practitioners on notification requirements.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-part-2-of-the-sexual-offences-act-2003>

Further education and skills inspection handbook (27/10/16)

Guidance for inspecting FE and skills provision under the common inspection framework.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/further-education-and-skills-inspection-handbook>

Joint inspections of the response to children living with domestic abuse: September 2016 to March 2017 (28/10/16)

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-living-with-domestic-abuse-september-2016-to-march-2017>

Early years provider non-compliance: action by Ofsted (31/10/16)

What Ofsted does when a childminder or childcare provider does not comply with regulations.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-provider-non-compliance-action-by-ofsted>

Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 August 2016 (15/11/16)

This release includes registered childcare providers and places, inspection outcomes and movement in the childcare sector.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-august-2016>

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New Belongings programme (25/10/16)

Independent evaluation of a programme looking to improve services for young people leaving care.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-belongings-programme-evaluation>

Safeguarding children and young people: memorandum of understanding between Ofsted and DfE (23/11/16)

How Ofsted and the DfE will work together to share sensitive information on notifiable safeguarding incidents.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-young-people-memorandum-of-understanding-between-ofsted-and-dfe>

RESuLT training (03/11/16)

RESuLT training is a 12-week, team-based training programme for children's homes drawing on social learning theory.

The report evaluates whether the training helps staff develop their practice and whether this promotes positive behaviour and relationships with and between young people in residential homes.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/result-training-evaluation-report>

New blocking powers to protect children online (20/11/16)

The regulator the BBFC is to be given powers to make internet service providers restrict access to pornographic sites which do not put tough age verification measures in place to protect kids.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-blocking-powers-to-protect-children-online>

Unaccompanied migrant children report (03/11/16)

Government response to the report of the EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee on Children in crisis: unaccompanied migrant children in the EU.

The Committee's report considered whether existing EU provisions for unaccompanied migrant children are sufficiently clear and enforceable, and what further measures are needed to address the nature and scale of the problems they face. The Committee's main conclusions included:

- Collectively, EU Member States are failing to comply with their obligations under EU and international law to receive and protect children in a manner that recognises their specific vulnerability
- Age disputes have significant consequences for children's lives, and there is clear evidence that children have been placed in unsuitable conditions on the basis of a mistaken age assessment. Where doubt exists, authorities should observe their legal obligation to give young people claiming to be children the benefit of the doubt
- The UK Government should develop, apply and routinely monitor national guidance on how to conduct best interests assessments with regard to unaccompanied minors
- Further EU action on unaccompanied migrant children should focus on the implementation of those priorities of the 2010-2014 Action Plan which have not yet been achieved.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/eu-home-affairs-subcommittee/news->

Children and the Internet Inquiry

The Communications Committee is conducting an inquiry into children's access to, and use of, the internet. It aims to investigate the risks and as well as the benefits. The Committee will also investigate how children's use of the internet is governed and regulated, examining the roles that parents, schools, media companies and regulators should all play.

On the 1st November 2016, the BBC and Ofcom discussed safeguarding children online.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/communications-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/children-and-the-internet/>

'A whole school framework for emotional well-being and mental health - A self-assessment and improvement tool for school leaders (20/10/16)

The NCB has created a new toolkit for schools to help them face the ever growing issue of student mental health and wellbeing.

The framework has four stages:

1. Deciding to act and identifying what is in place already
2. Getting a shared understanding and commitment to change and development
3. Building relationships and developing practices
4. Implementation and evaluation

<https://www.ncb.org.uk/news-opinion/news-highlights/national-childrens-bureau-aims-help-schools-tackle-mental-health-brand>

Consultations

Consolidation and revision of the school governance regulatory framework in Wales

(11/11/16)

Parents, teachers and the wider public are being asked for their views on plans to make major changes to school governing bodies from today (Fri 11th Nov).

Education Secretary Kirsty Williams has launched a consultation on a range of new proposals to provide governing bodies with the flexibility to appoint governors with the necessary skills and to organise themselves in a way that meets their needs.

Suggested reforms include:

- Greater flexibility to make their own decisions about their structure and membership, with a focus on skilled governors.
- A minimum of seven governors in all schools except voluntary and foundation schools, consisting of parent, staff, LA, and community governors, as well as the head teacher.
- A new category of ‘co-opted governors’ recruited specifically for their skills with no upper limit on the overall size of any type of governing body.
- Audits of members to identify any gaps in the skills they need to carry out their responsibilities effectively.
- Extend the category of parent governor so there will be appointed parent governors alongside their elected colleagues.

- Flexibility to have as many parent governors as they wish as long as elected parent governors do not outnumber appointed parent governors.
- Allowing parents of former pupils to be appointed as parent governor and ending the current system where governing bodies have restrictions on the number of parent governors they may have.
- Giving governing bodies the flexibility to increase or decrease their numbers more easily, including appointing ‘associate members’ or non-governors to committees, whenever specific expertise or experience is needed.
- The requirement for an independent person – which currently only applies where a staff disciplinary and dismissal committee is dealing with a matter involving harm to a pupil - will be extended to all staff disciplinary and dismissal committees, as well as head and deputy head teacher selection committees.

Closing date: 17th February 2017

<http://gov.wales/newsroom/educationandskills/2016/views-sought-on-major-changes-to-school-governing-bodies/?lang=en>

<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/consolidation-and-revision-school-governance-regulatory-framework-wales>



Consultations (continued)

Investigations into deaths of children in secure accommodation (28/10/16)

We are consulting on amendments to the Children's Homes (Wales) Regulations 2002. This will aid investigations by the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman (PPO) into the death of a child in a secure children's home in Wales by:

- ensuring the PPO is notified of any such deaths
- giving the PPO access to the home and its records
- giving the PPO powers to interview affected parties.

Closing date: 16th December 2016

<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/investigations-deaths-children-secure-accommodation>

Estyn seeks views on proposals for changes to inspecting education and training in Wales (01/11/16)

A month-long consultation, launched today by Estyn, seeks the views of teachers, senior leaders, policy makers and everyone with an interest in education on proposals for changes to the ways schools and other providers will be inspected from September 2017.

Closing date: 30th November 2016

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/news/estyn-seeks-views-proposals-changes-inspecting-education-and-training-wales>

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/consultation>



Conferences

Strategy and Skills for Improving Children's Mental Health

20th January 2107 London
£269 - £599 + VAT

The mental health of children and young people is a high-profile national concern, as understanding grows of how wellbeing is fundamental to all children achieving their true potential.

With an emphasis on prevention and early intervention, expert-led sessions throughout the day will arm you with vital insights, practical exercises and examples of effective provision to take back and implement in your day-to-day work.

Areas covered will include:

- Implementing the Future in Mind reforms
- Resilience and coping skills for children and young people in and out of school
- Self-harming behaviour and links with other mental health problems
- Whole-school approaches to mental health that lead to improved attendance, behaviour and attainment
- Local area-wide provision transformed through evidence-based practice
- Emotional intelligence and emotion regulation in the school environment
- Body image and eating disorder
- Anxiety around transition from primary to secondary school, and at exam times
- Self-awareness in young people to overcome barriers to learning
- Supporting emotional and mental health of children with SEND, in line with the revised SEND code of practice



- Schools collaborating with CAMHS to promote self-help
- Practical exercises to get young people talking about their emotional wellbeing
- Tips on using pupil feedback to improve mental health provision and support staff wellbeing
- Effective youth counselling through face-to-face, online, one-to-one and group support.

<http://www.mental-health-conference.com/home>

SEND: new challenges, new opportunities

23rd January 2017 London £250
CDC's conferences offer an opportunity to understand, debate and influence the direction of policy and practice affecting disabled children and those with SEN.

This year we will be focusing on:

- Children with the most complex needs – continuing care; the Transforming Care agenda; and children in 52 week residential placements.
- Implementation of SEND reforms - the latest Children and Families Act case law; the view from the SEND Tribunal; and findings from the first six months of the new inspection framework.
- Ongoing reform in education – the re-introduction of selective education; giving schools responsibility for pupils they exclude; and re-distribution of education high needs funding.

<https://www.ncb.org.uk/what-we-do/how-we-work/events-training/send-new-challenges-new-opportunities-london-conference>

Conferences (continued)

Practical strategies for safeguarding in schools

22nd February 2017 London
£269 - £459 + VAT

This conference provides an opportunity to engage with the country's leading safeguarding experts, providing you with practical strategies to ensure no child slips through your safeguarding net.

What can I expect?

- Gain proven strategies and hear best-practice to support and protect children suffering from mental health issues
- Understand your obligations to protect children from peer on peer abuse and safeguard against 'mate crime' across your school
- Sexting, cyber-bullying and social media – learn how to protect children online, educate parents and empower children to understand and protect themselves
- How to spot early warning signs of CSE, offer support and develop clear lines of communication with external agencies
- Gain strategies to put policy into practice, stay up to date with the latest guidance and provide fresh training that resonates with your colleagues

<http://my.optimus-education.com/conferences/PracticalSafeguarding>



Staying Safe: The "Dark" Web

9th March 2017 York £150 - £175

Topics to be covered by speakers include:

- 'The Dark Net'
- Grooming from the perpetrators perspective
- Grooming through gaming.
- School's Systems and the Voice of the Child

<http://www.cape.org.uk/cape-conferences.html>

BASPCAN 10th International Congress

11th April 2018 Coventry

This event will bring together practitioners, survivors of abuse, researchers, trainers and policy makers to learn from each other, reflect and consider how we can improve services to support families and protect children and young people.

The theme of Thinking outside the box reflects our desire to learn and develop, encouraging participants to be creative and reflexive, and to interact with each other.

Early bird bookings will open July 2017
<http://www.baspcan.org.uk/event/baspcan-2018-annual-conference/>

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