

Keeping Connected - The CPCScotland Weekly Bulletin

Issue 15 - Tuesday 7th July 2020

Issued to support Child Protection Committee's and partners with up to date information on child protection issues.

Welcome to Issue 15 of Keeping Connected.

Thanks to those who provided feedback on Keeping Connected. This has been overwhelmingly positive with nearly all responses indicating we should continue to prioritise producing the bulletin as we move out of the pandemic and into the 'new normal'.

We will continue with a weekly bulletin for now as we feel this allows us to include a round-up of information we have been asked to share by partners relatively quickly but without clogging up your inboxes with multiple 'for information' e-mails.

We are adapting the format to include a mix of both Covid-19 related content and more general child protection content.

Please continue to share examples of work from your area that others could use, adapt or be inspired by. We hope to build up this section of the bulletin in the weeks and months to come.

Keep safe

Alan Small; Chair Child Protection Committees Scotland

Section 1 COVID-19

Training

1 'It's your call' - Free NSPCC online training

NSPCC are temporarily making a free version of this course available to support delivery drivers and other workers who visit people's homes during this challenging time.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/training/free-course-workers-visit-deliver-people-homes>

2 Training in North Ayrshire

North Ayrshire have added an E-learning section for online modules to the training page of their website. From here all staff can get direct access to the e-learning modules that have been created in response to the Covid pandemic including information for those temporarily working with children and families, Child Sexual Exploitation and Keeping Children Safer Online.

<http://childprotectionnorthayrshire.info/cpc/training/>

Guidance, Resources and Information

3 Reopening of childcare services

The Scottish Government has released guidance to support planning for the wider reopening of school age childcare services in Phase 3 of Scotland's Routemap.

https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-reopening-school-age-childcare-services/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

The Scottish Government and the Care Inspectorate are hosting online support sessions on reopening guidance for the childcare sector.

https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/Professionals/SG_letters/CI_Note_for_online_support_sessions_on_reopening_guidance_-_3rd_July_2020.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

4 Cyber Resilience Notice – COVID 19

The latest Cyber Resilience Notice (July 2nd) along with all previous issues is available online. <https://blogs.gov.scot/cyber-resilience/2020/05/06/cyber-resilience-notice-covid-19/>

This week the notice includes:

➤ **Infographic comparing online communication platforms**

An infographic from Europol provides information about the functionality, and privacy and security settings of a number of communication platforms.

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/publications-documents/video-conferencing-apps-privacy-and-security-measures>

➤ **Guidance on video conferencing**

Guidance published by The National Cyber Security Centre on using Video Conferencing services securely for individuals and families and for organisations

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/video-conferencing-services-using-them-securely>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/video-conferencing-services-security-guidance-organisations>

5 Adult protection

Information on adult protection during COVID-19 can be found on the National APC Co-ordinator's website: <https://napc.scot/>

For Children and Families

6 Guidance on Physical Distancing and other restrictions for Children and Families

From 3rd July, the guidance for physical distancing changed for children. These changes are based on the latest scientific evidence and are summarised here.

<https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/changes-physical-distancing-children>

Text for use in newsletters and to adapt for social media has been produced by Parent Club and is attached to this e-mail.

The Parent Club coronavirus hub also contains Q&As on other changes to restrictions, as well as support and advice for parents and carers on a range of topics from financial support and shared parenting, to pregnancy and coronavirus:

<https://www.parentclub.scot/topics/coronavirus>.

7 Face to face Hearings – what to expect now

Information from the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration on the resumption of face to face Hearings.

<https://www.scra.gov.uk/2020/06/face-to-face-hearings-what-to-expect-now/>

Research and evidence based reports

8 Child Protection, Social Distancing and Risks from COVID-19

This briefing from the University of Birmingham shares some emerging findings about the challenges of achieving social distancing during child protection work, especially on home visits, and how children and families and social workers can be kept safe from COVID-19. Attached as pdf with this issue of Keeping Connected.

9 Isolated and Struggling

This NSPCC report, 'Isolated and Struggling', brings together evidence from academics, charities and frontline professionals, and identifies three ways in which lockdown has increased the risk of child abuse.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/2020/social-isolation-risk-child-abuse-during-and-after-coronavirus-pandemic>

10 Social impacts on young people of the coronavirus (COVID-19)

The UK Office for National Statistics has published indicators from the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey on the social impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on young people in Great Britain between 3 April and 10 May:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/ageing/articles/coronavirusandthesocialimpactsonyoungpeopleingreatbritain/3aprilto10may2020>

11 Changes in children and young people's emotional and behavioural difficulties through lockdown

An interim report from Emerging Minds, who are conducting a study to learn more about how families are coping with the challenges of COVID-19.

<https://emergingminds.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/CoSPACE-Report-4-June-2020.pdf>

12 The Cost of Learning in Lockdown

Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland has released a report focussed on the lockdown learning experiences of children and young people, parents and carers. *The Cost of Learning in Lockdown* brings together the survey responses of more than 3000 parents and carers, and over 1000 young people and children, with particular emphasis on the experiences of low income families.

<https://cpag.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/The-cost-of-learning-in-lockdown-Scotland-FINAL.pdf>

13 Covid-19 Impacts: Early Years

The Sutton Trust and the Centre for Research in Early Childhood have published a report on the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on early years, especially children, parents, and providers in disadvantaged areas:

<https://www.suttontrust.com/our-research/coronavirus-impacts-early-years/>

14 Impact of COVID-19 on Patterns of Drug Use and Drug-Related Harms in Europe

This briefing provides a snapshot of the state of play with respect to the impact of COVID-19 on drug consumption patterns and drug-related harms during the early stages of the pandemic.

https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47469/emcdda-trendspotter-covid-19-wave-2_1.pdf

15 COVID-19: Expectations and Effects on Children Online

Since lockdown began amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the UK Safer Internet Centre have looked at the expectations and effects this time has had in relation to children online. This report breaks down the key findings.

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/covid-19-expectations-and-effects-on-children-online/>

News and Media

16 In the News

- Deliveroo and NSPCC have announced a new partnership to help children who may be at risk of abuse or neglect in Scotland. The partnership will provide Deliveroo riders with free training to help them recognise children at risk of abuse and neglect and raise awareness of the NSPCC Helpline with Deliveroo riders promoting the Helpline number on their delivery bags (NB – this NSPCC training ‘It’s your call’ is free throughout the pandemic – see details in the training section of this bulletin)
<https://www.heraldseries.co.uk/news/national/18554969.deliveroo-riders-trained-spot-signs-child-abuse/>
- Over 150 charities and organisations are calling on the UK Government to put children at the heart of the recovery process for the COVID-19 public health emergency, to form three pillars alongside health and the economy for the UK’s recovery post-pandemic:
<https://www.ncb.org.uk/childrenattheheartofrecovery>
- Think-tank Reform Scotland, a group made up of some current and former headteachers, politicians and education professors, has drawn up a £200 million proposal for a longer school day for the next two years to build an extra six hours of teaching per week into the curriculum so that pupils can catch up on schoolwork missed during the coronavirus lockdown:
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18554816.200m-plans-extend-school-day-scottish-pupils-catch-up-missed-lessons/>

Section 2 Other Child Protection Topics

Training

17 Webinar: Helping young people stay safe online

YouthLink Scotland is hosting a free webinar on how to offer real, relevant and supportive advice that will enable young people to protect their identities, recognise cyberbullying and make informed choices in their online worlds. This takes place on Thursday 16 July from 12pm.

<https://www.youthlinkscotland.org/events/july-2020/helping-young-people-stay-safe-online/>

Guidance, Resources and Information

18 Upstream Prevention Pack

Stop It Now! Scotland have created an Upstream Prevention pack designed to help keep children safe from sexual harm. The pack contains practical advice and resources for professionals, individuals and families. Leaflets are designed for online use and print.

<https://www.stopitnow.org.uk/stop-it-now-scotland/resources/>

If you wish to receive printed copies of any of these items, please contact scotland@stopitnow.org.uk .

19 The Compassionate and Connected Classroom: A health and wellbeing curricular resource for upper primary

This suite of resources from Education Scotland aims to raise awareness of the potential impact of adversity and trauma in shaping outcomes for children and young people and provide support that can help mitigate the impact of these experiences.

<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/learning-resources/compassionate-and-connected-classroom>

20 Child Protection Improvement Programme

An update from the Scottish Government on the national improvement programme.

<https://blogs.gov.scot/child-protection-improvement-programme/2020/06/18/child-protection-improvement-programme-update-15/>

21 National CSE Action Plan - delivery report

The final delivery report of the National CSE Action Plan has now been published. The report sets out the range of achievements and activity delivered since 2016 to prevent and tackle child sexual exploitation.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-action-plan-prevent-tackle-child-sexual-exploitation-final-delivery-report/>

22 Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Programme

The Scottish Government has published the Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Programme Board 2020-2021 delivery plan. It can be read [here](#)

23 Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy - Third Annual Progress Report and Strategy Review

Review of the Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy and a report setting out implementation progress from 2019 to 2020.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/trafficking-exploitation-strategy-third-annual-progress-report-strategy-review/>

Research and evidence based reports

24 Mental wellbeing of adolescents in Scotland

The Scottish Government has published the mental health and wellbeing findings from the 2018 wave of the Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS).

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-schools-adolescent-lifestyle-substance-use-survey-salsus-mental-wellbeing-report-2018/>

25 Children in care and their use of mobile devices and the internet for contact

The above literature review has been undertaken and published by Iriss as part of their Insights series.

<https://www.iriss.org.uk/resources/insights/children-care-and-their-use-mobile-devices-and-internet-contact>

26 Using Evidence for Change: Domestic Abuse

These four papers are focused around the area of supporting multi-agency communication in working with domestic abuse in families with children.

<https://www.iriss.org.uk/resources/reports/using-evidence-change-domestic-abuse>

27 Child poverty indicators 2018-19

The Centre for Research in Social Policy at Loughborough University has published analysis of the new local child poverty data.

<http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/local-child-poverty-data-201415-20189/>

28 Safer Internet Day 2020 Impact Report

This report looks at the reach of Safer Internet Day 2020 and the impact that it had on children, young people, parents, carers, and teachers.

https://d1afx9quaogywf.cloudfront.net/sites/default/files/Safer%20Internet%20Day%202020/Safer%20Internet%20Day%202020%20-%20Impact%20report_0.pdf

29 Forced Marriage Unit Statistics 2019

The Home Office Report and Foreign and Commonwealth Office published the Forced Marriage Unit Statistics for 2019 on 25th June 2020.

https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47497/forced_marriage_unit_statistics_2019.pdf

30 When Coercive Control Continues to Harm Children: Post-Separation Fathering, Stalking and Domestic Violence

This article shows how domestic violence perpetrators can use coercive control against their children after their ex-partner has separated from them.

<https://www.careknowledge.com/media/47289/car2611.pdf>

News and Media

31 In the News

- The Scottish Government has announced up to £9 million of additional funding for Future Pathways' services supporting adult survivors of childhood abuse in care - Future Pathways works with organisations from the statutory and voluntary sectors to provide support such as education or training courses, therapeutic services or psychological trauma counselling: <https://www.gov.scot/news/supporting-adult-survivors-of-in-care-childhood-abuse/>
- Police Scotland has reported that 180 children have been protected and 100 online predators have been arrested since January 2020 as a result of their investigations into online child abuse: <https://www.scotland.police.uk/whats-happening/news/2020/june/180-children-protected-from-online-abuse>
- The June 2020 issue of **Scottish Journal of Residential Child Care** Is now available and centres on the theme, 'the extraordinary ordinary: the power of everyday care'. https://www.celcis.org/files/5015/9178/4997/SJRCC_Vol_19.2.pdf

Please feel free to let us know what you think about the bulletin and provide information for inclusion in future editions. Please contact Alan Small or Susan Mitchell at cpscotland-liaison@strath.ac.uk