

Keeping Connected - The CPCScotland Weekly Bulletin

Issue 69 - Tuesday 7th September 2021

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

Welcome to Issue 69 of Keeping Connected.

Last week the Scottish Government published the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 with a suite of supporting documents. CPCScotland members have informed and advised on the development

Scottish Government also published National Guidance for Child Protection Committees Under taking Learning Reviews which has benefitted from of CPCScotland members throughout its development. I hope this guidance will support CPCs in adopting a proportionate approach to undertaking reviews with learning at the heart of the process. On this note I would like to draw attention to item 11. This family impact statement follows an adult safeguarding review in England and is a very powerful reminder that we need to use reviews as a catalyst to make improvements to practice or, as Anne's son put it, 'the point of [the] review'. The message in this statement is equally relevant to Learning Reviews in Child Protection in Scotland as it is for Adult Safeguarding Reviews in England.

Remember, if you have anything from your area you think would be of interest to others across Scotland please get in touch with Susan Mitchell at

liaison@strath.ac.uk to discuss information we could include in Keeping Connected.

cpcscotland.org

Keep safe.

Alan Small CPCScotland Chair

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021

The Scottish Government published the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 on 2nd September 2021 with a suite of accompanying documents including a series of Practice Insights and supportive statements from a range of stakeholders including CPCScotland. A PageFlip version has also been published.

[National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-guidance-for-child-protection-in-scotland-2021/pages/1-1-introduction.aspx)

[\(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-guidance-for-child-protection-in-scotland-2021/pages/1-1-introduction.aspx)

[Child Protection Guidance 2021 Page Flip Version](https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-guidance-for-child-protection-in-scotland-2021/pages/1-1-introduction.aspx)

This non-statutory Guidance describes the responsibilities and expectations for all involved in protecting children in Scotland and replaces the 2014 version. It outlines how statutory and non-government agencies should work together with parents, families and communities to prevent harm and to protect children from abuse and neglect. The Guidance promotes partnership between those who care about and have responsibilities for the child, and entails a collaborative approach between professionals, carers and family members.

A key change in the 2021 Guidance is to reflect the greater integration of child protection within the Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) continuum and use GIRFEC language and core components to frame identification and proportionate responses to child protection concerns within the National Practice Model. The Guidance also has a strengthened focus on children's rights, engagement and collaboration with children and families, and on building on strengths.

Scottish Government have also published a supporting narrative for use in wider communications which is intended to reiterate the commitment to the Promise vision and set out how our approach to child protection in Scotland aligns with and supports strategic developments.

Implementation

The Scottish Government acknowledge that consistent implementation across Scotland will be key to realising the benefits from this revised guidance. They

have established an implementation steering group to undertake detailed

implementation planning as local arennihtimplathteerinp6 ne19 Td.9 (p)-4.7 (mpl)-4.7 (ot)5.4 (u)-0.9 (i)

2 National Guidance for Child Protection Committees

Guidance, Resources and Information

3 UNICEF Child Protection Strategy

UNICEF has published its 2021 – 2030 Child Protection Strategy with a vision of a world where all children are free from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices.

[Child Protection Strategy | UNICEF](#)

4 Supporting young pregnant women and young parents in school

The Scottish Government has published guidance to support pregnant young women and young parents to stay in school, setting out why it is important to provide support, how that support could be provided, and what needs to be taken into account when reaching decisions with the young person:

["Someone to talk to and Someone to listen" - Supporting young pregnant women and young parents in school - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

5 Age of Criminal Responsibility Supporting Documents

The Scottish Government has published Statutory Guidance on Investigative Interviews and on the use of a Place of Safety for the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019: Part 4

[Age of Criminal Responsibility \(Scotland\) Act 2019: Part 4 – Police Investigatory and Other Powers - Statutory Guidance on Investigative Interviews - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

6 Parents with learning disabilities good practice guidance (England)

The Working Together with Parents Network (WTPN) have published a new version of their good practice guidance on working with parents with learning disabilities in England. The guidance contains information for those working with a family affected by parental learning disability including good practice where safeguarding procedures are necessary and situations where no child protection issues have been formally raised.

[FINAL - 2021 - WTPN-UPDATE-OF-THE-GPG.pdf \(anncrafttrust.org\)](#)

7 Digital innovation used to respond to the Covid -19 pandemic

The pandemic has accelerated the use of digital technology in Scotland's public services. Audit Scotland have brought together a range of case studies on how digital innovation and transformation has been used to respond to Covid19.

[Digital e-hub | Audit Scotland \(audit-scotland.gov.uk\)](#)

8 Children in Scotland E Learning Hub

Working in partnership with the Charity Learning Consortium, Children in Scotland are providing a hub of resources aimed at strengthening the children's sector workforce across Scotland on a range of issues and topics.

[eLearning -hub User -guide v3.pdf \(childreninscotland.org.uk\)](#)

9 New children and young people's services webpage

The Care Inspectorate have created a new webpage to provide information on their role in children and young people's services.

[Children and young people](#)

CYCJ are hosting a webinar on September 23 from 1pm – 2pm. Leading expert in restorative justice Tim Chapman (University of Strathclyde Visiting Professor) will present on children's rights and the practice of restorative justice. Tim will demonstrate that, while restorative justice has the potential to support and activate the exercise of children's rights, it often fails to do so.

[Exploring the relationship between children's rights & restorative justice Tickets.](#)

[Thu 23 Sep 2021 at 13:00 | Eventbrite](#)

14 Early help: the key to recovery - policy and practice

This online conference, organised by Children & Young People Now, takes place on 22 - 23 September 2021.

20 Safeguarding vulnerable adults from forced, unlawful or predatory marriage and civil partnership

The new My Marriage, My Choice website contains information and resources for people at risk of, or currently experiencing forced, unlawful or predatory marriage. The website also provides information and free training resources for professionals. This includes health and social care professionals, people working in education and youth services, the police and other criminal justice professionals, and marriage registrars.

[Home - My Marriage My Choice | My Marriage My Choice](#)

21 Youth Link Scotland #IWill Movement

Children and young people aged 10 to 25 are invited to become #IWill Ambassadors to celebrate the positive impact children and young people continue to have in their communities and environment. If you know or work with young people, you can encourage them to apply or nominate them.

[YouthLink Scotland | #iwill in Scotland](#)

Research and Evidence Based Reports

22 Staff wellbeing research summary

St Christopher's Fellowship, a charity which provides children's homes, has published research into improving emotional wellbeing for children's social care workforce. Findings from the research includes: introducing individual therapeutic support for staff helped lower the risk of burn out and secondary traumatic stress, and equipping employees with the skills and knowledge to better support young people with trauma increased staff resilience and reduced the risk of secondary traumatic stress.

24 Early impact of Covid -19 lockdown on Muslim & Black Minority Ethnic women in Scotland

Amina, The Muslim Women's Resource Centre, a third sector organisation working with women in Scotland, circulated a survey early in the pandemic to learn how its constituent communities were affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The survey gathered experiences especially of Muslim and Black minority ethnic women and those in minority religious groups in Scotland, offering an important source of data on the experiences and perspectives of under researched groups.

[Early impact of Covid -19 lockdown on Muslim & Black Minority Ethnic women in Scotland | Scotland in Lockdown](#)

25 Evaluation of Keeping Safe programme

The NSPCC has published two evaluation reports about Keeping Safe, a whole-school programme aimed at teaET 0 0 1 rg 72 iholTw (-)T (b) Tw (-)Tj -0.002 Tw T* [(/P <</MCID 9 >ypTf 1 sTw 1.459 0 35.022Evscoviy isvogrammea honholon(t)0.5 (K)]TJ 0 crme it-be695 0 Td (1 (mm)-5.2 a)-2.

28 Mitigating confirmation bias and improving forecasting accuracy in social work

What Works for Children's Social Care has published findings from a randomised controlled trial (RCT) of a checklist intervention to help social workers avoid some of the negative effects of confirmation bias and improve forecasting accuracy. An online survey of 87 social workers and one student social worker found that participants' forecasting accuracy improved after the checklist intervention, but the change was not statistically significant.

[Social Worker Decision - Making report \(whatworks -csc.org.uk\)](https://www.whatworks-csc.org.uk)

29 Young people and rural youth services in England

The National Youth Agency (NYA) has published a report looking at the provision of youth services in rural areas. The report highlights the challenges faced by young people in rural areas and the need for improved services. The report is available on the NYA website.

<https://www.nya.org.uk>

32 The Impact of COVID- 19 on Adolescents with Eating Disorders

The goals of this Canadian study were 1) to examine characteristics of adolescents presenting for eating disorder (ED) assessment since the onset of the COVID -19 pandemic; 2) to compare adolescents presenting for ED assessment since the onset of the COVID -19 pandemic to those that presented for assessment 1 year previously; 3) to examine implications of the pandemic on the system of care.

[The impact of COVID -19 on adolescents with eating disorders: a cohort study | Journal of Eating Disorders | Full Text \(biomedcentral.com\)](#)

News and Opinion

36 The power in data and how to share it

This is a think piece exploring themes arising from data Bespoke Support Projects and Rebecca Godar's wider work with authorities and partnerships on using data to understand and tackle exploitation and extra-familial harm.

[The power in data and how to share it - Tackling Child Exploitation](#)