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COVID-19 – General

[Tracing app launches](#)

The Protect Scotland app has been launched by the Scottish Government to assist in contact tracing. The app focuses on proximity tracing, using Bluetooth technology to anonymously alert users if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Users of the app who test positive will still get a call from a contact tracer to confirm their details and who they have been in close contact with.

[Route map update](#)

The Scottish Government has set out their three-weekly update on the route map, confirming that Scotland will stay in Phase 3, and limiting the number of people who can meet socially to a maximum of six people who come from no more than two households. Face coverings will be mandated for customers and staff in indoor hospitality.

[New rules on social contact \(England\)](#)

The UK Government has announced new rules on social contact, including the ‘rule of six’ that nobody should meet socially in groups of more than six in any setting – indoors or outdoors, at home or in a pub. This rule replaces both the existing ban on gatherings of more than 30 and the current guidance on allowing two households to meet indoors.



[Weekly statistics for COVID-19](#)

Public Health Scotland has published the weekly COVID-19 statistical report, showing that as at 6 September 2020, there have been 21,543 confirmed COVID-19 cases, equating to 394 confirmed cases per 100,000 population.

Child Protection

[Statutory code for online privacy protections for children](#)

A statutory code requiring digital organisations to provide better online privacy protections for children came into force for the UK on 2 September 2020, Celcis reports. The Age Appropriate Design Code or Children's Code applies to organisations providing online services and products likely to be accessed by children up to age 18, and gives organisations a year to integrate the necessary changes into their products.

Early Learning and Childcare

[Financial support for childminders](#)

The Scottish Government has confirmed that additional funding will be available to the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) for an extension of the Childminding Workforce Support Fund. The funding will offer grants of £350 to eligible childminders who are experiencing hardship as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Human Rights

[Call for views on UNCRC law](#)

The Equalities and Human Rights Committee has issued a call for views on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill. The main purpose of the Bill is to "incorporate" the UNCRC, which would make it part of Scottish law. Children's rights would then be legally protected. The Committee is seeking views by Friday 16 October 2020.

Justice

[Impact assessment for introduction of Children's Advocacy](#)

The Scottish Government has published a Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) for the introduction of Children's Advocacy in the Children's Hearing System. The CRWIA considers whether the introduction of children's advocacy in the Children's Hearings System impacts on the rights and wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland. The Scottish Government are of the view that the provisions will advance the realisation of children's rights and wellbeing in Scotland.



Learning Disabilities

[Annual review for SCLD](#)

The Scottish Commission for Learning Disability (SCLD) has published their Annual Review for 2019-20, looking at their highlights for the year and progress made to improve the lives of people with learning/intellectual disabilities in Scotland.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Shared commitment to realise promise made to care experienced people](#)

The Chair of The Promise, the body established to drive the implementation of the Independent Care Review, and Who Cares? Scotland are highlighting their shared commitment to ensure the promise made to care experience people is fully realised. More information on how both organisations' will work together to achieve their shared intent will be available.

[Commissioner calls for ban on use of unregulated accommodation \(England\)](#)

The Children's Commissioner for England is calling for a ban on local councils placing young people under 18 years old in unregulated accommodation. The change would see all children in care who need a residential placement housed in accommodation regulated under the same standards as children's homes, and would put an end to 16 and 17 year olds being placed in bedsits, hostels and caravans.

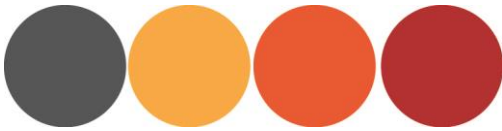
Mental Health

[Response to Committee report on mental health support for young people](#)

The Scottish Government has responded to the Public Petitions Committee's report on their inquiry into mental health support for young people in Scotland. The response sets out the actions the Scottish Government has taken to improve the mental health support that is available to young people since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, and responds to the recommendations in the Committee report.

[Mental health campaign \(England\)](#)

Public Health England has launched a new campaign to support the mental health and wellbeing of children, young people and their parents. The 'Every Mind Matters' campaign offers advice to help parents spot the signs that children may be struggling with their mental health and support, and tools for young people to help build resilience.



Other

[Working together whilst apart](#)

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss) has a new course on working together as a mixed group of decision makers, staff members, and people with lived experience, when it is not practical for you to all be in the same room. It will help you create a practical project plan and use tools that help connect people across distance. This could include working with an international group, in a rural setting, or with people who may find it easier to contribute from home.

Disclaimer

This weekly bulletin is produced as an update on the key issues concerning children and young people.

Each item in the bulletin has a hyperlinked headline that will take the reader to the original source.

We collate items from our parliamentary and Scottish Government monitoring covering health and social care news from throughout the UK, and current research and policy development. We use a variety of sources for the bulletin, including alerts from [Newsdirect](#), [Community Care](#), [Children & Young People Now](#) and [ISD Scotland](#).

We aim to be representative rather than comprehensive, so we try to cover only the main Scottish stories, along with some stories from the rest of the UK. The purpose of the bulletin is to alert readers to items of interest. It should be noted that these items are the works of others and are neither authorised nor endorsed by the Care Inspectorate, with the exception of publications which are identified as Care Inspectorate publications.

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