



[COVID-19 - General](#)

[Early Learning and
Childcare](#)

[Justice](#)

[Looked After and
Accommodated Children](#)

[Other Health and Social
Care](#)

COVID-19 - General

[Further easing of restrictions](#)

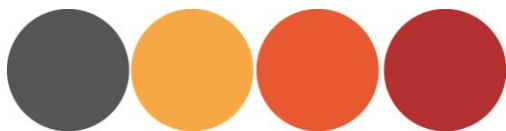
The Scottish Government has confirmed that the Stay Local requirement will replace the Stay at Home rule from Friday 2 April 2021. Furthermore, from Monday 5 April, hairdressers, garden centres, car showrooms and forecourts, homeware stores and non-essential click and collect services will be able to open subject to enhanced safety measures including physical distancing, face coverings and pre-booking where appropriate. More college students will be able to return to on-campus learning and 12-17 year-olds will be able to resume outdoor contact sports from this date.

[Disposing of waste from Lateral Flow Devices](#)

The Scottish Government has published answers to commonly asked questions regarding the management of waste arising from the use of Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs) in Scotland to test for asymptomatic cases of COVID-19.

[New UK agency to protect against future health threats](#)

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) will work to protect the country from future health threats and ensure the nation can respond to pandemics quickly and at greater scale. Formally established in April 2021, the primary focus will initially be the continued fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.



Early Learning and Childcare

[Guidance for Birth to 5 \(England\)](#)

The National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) is highlighting the launch of 'Birth to 5' guidance by the Early Years Coalition. Building on previous non-statutory guidance, it outlines the foundations of good practice, with information and guidance for practitioners to consider how the Principles of the EYFS can be brought to life in their setting, and includes new sections on play, characteristics of effective learning, and self-regulation.

Justice

[Refreshed vision for young people in custody](#)

The Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) is highlighting that, together with partners, the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) has refreshed its co-produced 'Vision for Young People in Custody'. This updated Vision reflects new evidence and the many factors, including the continuing reduction in the numbers of young people in custody and the incorporation of the UNCRC into Scottish law, that are changing the landscape of youth justice in Scotland.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Care Inspectorate corporate parenting report and plan](#)

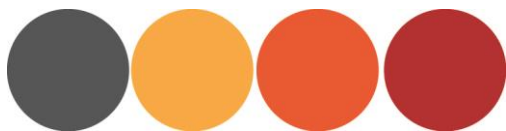
The Care Inspectorate has published our statutory report for Corporate Parenting which provides assurance that we meet our responsibilities as corporate parents, and refers to the progress made on our 2017-2020 corporate parenting plan. To make it accessible for children and young people, we have also created [an easy read version](#). Our new [Corporate Parenting Plan for 2021-23](#) is also available, accompanied by [a summary version](#).

[Children's Reporter annual report](#)

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration has published their fourth annual report for children and young people, focusing on three key themes of Care, Connect and Protect, and how the work over the last year relates to their Corporate Parenting Plan.

[Plan for the Promise](#)

The Promise, which is responsible for driving the implementation of the Independent Care Review recommendations for Scotland's care system, has published its plan for 2021 to 2024, including the five priority areas and key milestones. A further Change Programme will be published at the end of May 2021.



Other Health and Social Care

[Children's Social Work Statistics for Scotland](#)

The Scottish Government has published Children's Social Work Statistics for Scotland for 2019-20, presenting data collected from local authorities and secure units on children and young people who are: formally looked after; under child protection measures; or in secure care at some point between 1 August 2019 and 31 July 2020.

[Social work leadership during the pandemic](#)

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss) reports that Social Work Scotland has published two reports on the realities of social work leadership during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, one of which is produced by Iriss itself. Similar themes in both reports are on the scarcity of resources, strengths and challenges of the Chief Social Worker role, and the profession's voice in health and social care.

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.

It should also be noted that the Care Inspectorate has no liability in respect of the content of external websites which may be signposted on this site.