



## COVID-19 - General

### [Schools return full-time after Easter](#)

The Scottish Government has confirmed all secondary schools will reopen on Monday 19 April and children on the shielding list would be able to return on Monday 26 April. Additionally, the two metre social distancing rule will not be required in schools, but twice weekly testing will continue and pupils will be encouraged to strengthen their mitigations.

### [Public health statistics](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has released its weekly COVID-19 statistical report. By Sunday 4 April, there have been 220,234 confirmed cases, with 2,415 in the latest week. In the week ending Sunday 28 March, there are 78 confirmed cases under the school testing programme.

[COVID-19 - General](#)

[Early Learning and  
Childcare](#)

[Education](#)

[Human Rights](#)

[Looked After and  
Accommodated Children](#)



### [Long COVID-19 survey](#)

An ONS study has suggested around one-in-five people had symptoms of long COVID five weeks following an initial infection and one-in-seven after 12 weeks, the BBC reports

### [Further easing of restrictions \(England\)](#)

The UK Government's Prime Minister has confirmed England will move into step two of the roadmap from Monday 12 April, with additional premises reopening, including public buildings and outdoor settings.

## **Early Learning and Childcare**

### [Principles for better working between nurseries and local authorities](#)

Principles which aim to promote effective working between private and voluntary and nurseries and local authorities have been signed by Early Years Scotland. Building on those originally agreed between the National Day Nurseries Association Scotland (NDNA) and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) in September 2018 for the expansion of ELC, to support positive working relationships between local authorities and partner providers, the partnership principles set out a number of actions including all employers providing the funded entitlements on early learning and childcare (ELC) will meet the latest version of the national standard requirements.

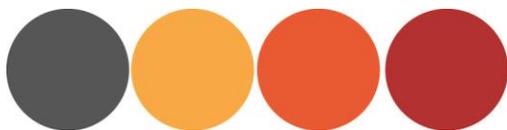
### [Incorporating STEM activities into childminding](#)

The Scottish Childminding Association has published a video which aims to illustrate how childminders incorporate science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) into activities.

## **Education**

### [Review into safeguarding policies and practices \(England\)](#)

Ofsted has announced they will review safeguarding policies and practices relating to sexual abuse in state and independent schools and colleges. Following the publication of anonymous testimonials on the website 'Everyone's Invited', the review aims to not only examine whether schools and colleges have appropriate safeguarding process in place, but also consider whether current guidance is understood and sufficient to respond effectively to allegations.



## Human Rights

### [Protecting rights during the pandemic](#)

The Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland is reflecting on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and young people, and what more needs to be done to protect their human rights. The Commissioner comments that it is important to recognise the important role that human rights play in decision making and the need to keep restrictions under review to ensure they continue to be necessary, proportionate and for the most limited time possible.

## Looked After and Accommodated Children

### [Care Experienced History Month](#)

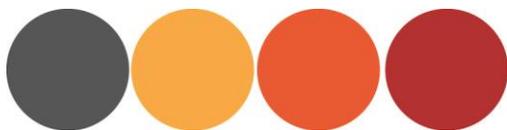
The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) are celebrating Care Experienced History Month in April, sharing the stories of their care experienced staff.

### [Podcast explores history of care](#)

Children & Young People Now reports a new podcast by a care experienced young person in partnership with Coram children's charity, exploring the history of care. The podcast will have guests with experience of the care system, and others such as authors and historians.

### [Informing new guidance to support the rights of siblings with care experience](#)

The Centre for excellence for Children's Care and Protection (Celcis) is seeking views to inform the writing of a National Practice Guidance to accompany new legislative changes introduced to uphold the rights and meet the needs of brothers and sisters with care experience under the Children (Scotland) Act 2020. The Guidance is due to be published in July 2021, when most of the legislative changes will come into force, and will offer important support for practitioners in Scotland's collective efforts to uphold children's rights and Keep The Promise of the Independent Care Review.



## 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.