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COVID-19 – General

[Glasgow to remain in level three](#)

The Scottish Government has confirmed that Glasgow will remain in level three restrictions, but may be able to move to level two on Saturday 5 June, the BBC reports. Whilst there are reportedly signs that the situation in Glasgow is beginning to stabilise, there are still concerns about the outbreak of the 'Indian variant'.

[Latest weekly COVID-19 stats published by Public Health Scotland](#)

Public Health Scotland (PHS) has released its weekly COVID-19 statistical report. By Sunday 23 May, there had been 232,343 confirmed cases, with 2,373 in the latest week. In the same week, there were 75 admissions to hospital with confirmed COVID-19 and seven new patients were treated in intensive care. In the week ending Sunday 16 May, there were 25 positive confirmatory PCR tests under the school testing programme.

[Call for summit on impact of pandemic on disabled people](#)

The ALLIANCE, Camphill Scotland, Scottish Care, Sense Scotland and the Scottish Youth Parliament are calling for an urgent summit to address the impact of COVID-19 upon disabled people, including people with learning disabilities. The group says a summit is vital to address issues such as the impact of COVID-19 and the lockdown restrictions upon disabled people and their families and other carers, on safeguarding, on care and support, including access to day services, on the availability of health services, on access to transport and to other key infrastructure, as well as issues around mental health and wellbeing, and tackling social isolation and loneliness.



[Vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 variant](#)

Public Health England (PHE) has published a study which shows that two doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech and AstraZeneca vaccines are “highly effective” against the B.1.617.2 variant first identified in India. The study found that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was 88% effective against symptomatic disease from the B.1.617.2 variant two weeks after the second dose. Meanwhile two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine were 60% effective against symptomatic disease from the same variant.

[Vaccination registration opens for younger people](#)

NHS Scotland has launched an online self-referral service and is inviting 18-29 year-olds in Scotland to register for the COVID-19 vaccine online.

[Update to advice on therapeutics for managing COVID-19](#)

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has updated its advice on the use of two therapeutics, remdesivir and colchicine, for managing COVID-19.

[Iriss publishes analysis of pandemic experiences](#)

Iriss has published an online resource bringing together learning from a collection of stories from those working across a range of sectors, including social care, social work and health, during the pandemic. Iriss has provided a detailed analysis of the stories, showing how experiences evolved throughout the year. The analysis attempts to explore what the crisis has meant for outcomes for people.

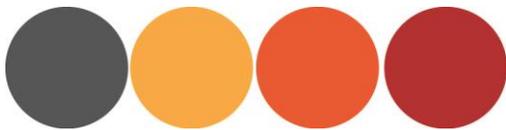
Early Learning and Childcare

[Childminders invited to take part in communications survey](#)

The Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) is highlighting that the Scottish Government’s early learning & childcare (ELC) communications & engagement team is inviting all childminders and the wider childcare sector to take part in its communications and engagement survey. The ELC team will use the views to provide feedback on the communications and engagement from Scottish Government, with the survey closing on Tuesday 15 June.

[Cyber security for early years practitioners](#)

The National Cyber Security Centre has published guidance, ‘Early Years practitioners: using cyber security to protect your settings - How to protect sensitive information about your setting and the children in your care from accidental damage and online criminals’. The guidance covers backing up important information, using passwords to control access to computers and information, protecting devices from viruses and malware, and dealing with suspicious messages.



Learning Disabilities

[National survey of people with learning disabilities](#)

The Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities (SCLD) has launched the second in its series of reports exploring the results of the 2019 national survey of people with learning disabilities in Scotland. The report, “Mostly a 10, but sometimes a zero”: Exploring the wellbeing of people with learning disabilities in Scotland’, considered the wellbeing of people in Scotland with learning disabilities and found that on a rating system of how satisfied those with learning disabilities were with their lives, the average rating was 8.13 out of 10.

Looked after and accommodated children

[Exposure to ACEs experienced by children in secure care](#)

The Children & Young People’s Centre for Justice (CYCJ) has published its second secure care census and found the level of exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACE) has increased. Amongst other reported findings, the census found 74% of children surveyed had been exposed to four or more ACEs prior to entering secure care, higher than the 64% recorded in the 2018 census. The census also found that being placed by a local authority from outside Scotland was a statistically significant factor in a child’s exposure to ACEs. The average ACE exposure among children from a Scottish local authority was 4.92, while children from English and Welsh local authorities had been exposed to an average of 6.38.

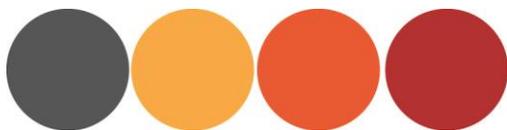
[Accommodation for care leavers \(England\)](#)

Barnardo’s has published a report on the accommodation experiences of young people leaving the care system and found that many are offered unsafe, unsuitable and unhealthy housing. As part of Barnardo’s research project, they interviewed care leavers about their experiences, funded by the charity’s corporate partner IKEA, and a majority reported that they had little or no choice about where they moved after leaving care, many found the whole process of finding somewhere to live and moving in to be ‘scary’ and did not feel ready to live independently, saying they had not been prepared with the practical skills needed.

Other Health and Social Care

[Update on financial redress for survivors of child abuse in care](#)

The Scottish Government has published an update on work taking place since the The Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Bill was passed by Parliament in March 2021.



Other

[Call to end two-child limit on Universal Credit and Child Tax Credit](#)

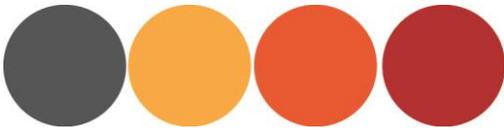
The Children's Commissioners of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have sent a letter to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions calling for an end to the two-child limit on Universal Credit and Child Tax Credit. The Commissioners reportedly feel that the policy, which disallows benefits payments to the third and subsequent children born after April 2017 in most circumstances, is 'a clear breach of children's human rights' that "is inconsistent with the commitments made by the UK through the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

[Overview report for local government](#)

Audit Scotland has published its latest local government overview report examining Scotland's local authorities and their responses to COVID-19. Amongst other reported findings, they found that local government reacted quickly, working alongside communities and partners, to address the unprecedented challenges created by Covid-19. But that many challenges remain significant, made more urgent by the multiple impacts of Covid-19 on communities and services.

[Ministers to enter talks to reach co-operation agreement](#)

The Scottish Government has formally announced ministers will enter into structured talks with the Scottish Greens, supported by the civil service, with a view to establishing a formal co-operation agreement. In the weeks leading up to the next Parliamentary Recess talks will be ongoing and focus on agreeing policy areas which the government and the Scottish Green Party will co-operate on.



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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