



[Covid-19 - General](#)

[Early Learning and  
Childcare](#)

[Justice](#)

[Looked after and  
accommodated children](#)

[Other Health and Social  
Care](#)

[Play](#)

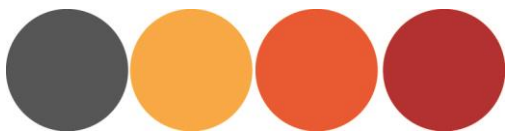
## **Covid-19 - General**

### [Move to level 0 postponed](#)

In her latest statement to Parliament this week, the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon announced that it is “unlikely” that any part of Scotland will move down a level in the Covid-19 framework from 28 June, as originally planned. She explained that the Scottish Government will instead opt to maintain restrictions for a further three weeks from 28 June and use that time to vaccinate as many more people as possible.

### [Analysis reportedly shows effectiveness of vaccines against hospitalisation](#)

Public Health England (PHE) has published new analysis which reportedly shows that two doses of Covid-19 vaccines are highly effective against hospitalisation from the Delta variant. The analysis suggests the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is 96% effective against hospitalisation after two doses, while the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine is 92% effective



### [Report into PPE arrangements](#)

Audit Scotland has published a briefing considering how the Scottish Government and NHS National Services Scotland (NHS NSS) worked to put in place arrangements to procure, store, and distribute personal protective equipment (PPE) to health and social care settings during the pandemic. As well as detailing the amount of contracts awarded using emergency procurement procedures, the report outlines key issues such as the doubling of the price of PPE in 2020, very low stocks of PPE at points during April 2020 and that the Scottish Government “did not fully implement recommendations from the pandemic preparedness exercise and could have done more to ensure access to PPE and training in how to use it.”

### [Care of children and young people with SEND affected by pandemic \(England\)](#)

Ofsted has published a report of their joint visits with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to local areas, which shows that children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) were disproportionately affected by the pandemic. It highlights the cumulative effects of disruption caused by the pandemic on the health, learning and development of children with SEND, and describes the negative experiences of children and families including missed education, the absence of essential services such as physiotherapy or speech and language support, and long waiting times for assessment and treatment.

### [Lessening of restrictions to be postponed by a month \(England\)](#)

The UK Government’s Prime Minister has announced the planned move to step 4 of the road map in England will be postponed from Monday 21 June to Monday 19 July, except for the removal of restrictions on the number of guests at weddings and wakes which will go ahead on Monday 21 June. In explaining the postponement, the Prime Minister commented that the Delta variant was spreading faster than had been predicted and warned there was a possibility the virus would outrun the vaccination rollout if further reopening went ahead.

## **Early Learning and Childcare**

### [Quality framework for daycare of children, childminding and school aged childcare](#)

We have just published our new quality framework for daycare of children, childminding and school aged childcare. The primary purpose of the framework is for early learning and childcare (ELC) services to evaluate their own performance. It will also be used by our inspectors to provide independent assurance about the quality of children’s experiences and outcomes. By setting out what we expect to see in high-quality care and learning, it can help support improvement too.

### [Progress report on delivery of the Early Learning and Childcare Expansion](#)

The Improvement Service has published a delivery progress report for the Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Expansion, presenting data as of April 2021 on the



number of children accessing funded ELC, those accessing more than the statutory entitlement of 600 hours and those accessing the 1140 hours of funded ELC.

## **Justice**

### [Progress report on youth justice strategy](#)

The Scottish Government has published a report on the progress made against the priorities of their youth justice strategy 2015-20 and highlights the next steps. The report provides a summary of the work streams of the three implementation groups set up to deliver on priorities: Advancing Whole System Approach, Improving Life Chances, and Developing Capacity and Improvement.

### [Vision for the rights-respecting approach to justice](#)

'A Rights-Respecting Approach to Justice for Children and Young People: Scotland's Vision and Priorities' has been published by the Scottish Government, building on the youth justice strategy representing a shared foundation between the Scottish Government and partners to continue to support the agenda to keep children out of the criminal justice system and promote the use of the Whole System Approach. An [action plan](#) has also been published, and a [summary of the feedback](#) taken from partners, stakeholders, and children and young people prior to the development and publication of the new youth justice vision.

### [Standards for a child's journey through the justice system](#)

Revised standards for those working with children in conflict with the law have been published by the Scottish Government, replacing the 2012 standards and aiming to guide both strategic and operational services' understanding of what is expected at each stage of a child's journey through the justice system.

### [Standards and requirements for risk practice for children 12 – 17 years old](#)

An update to 2014 guidance has been published by the Scottish Government, outlining the standards and operational requirements for risk practice for children 12 – 17 years old. This guidance has been updated in conjunction with the Risk Management Authority and considers the principles of good risk practice as defined within the Framework for Risk Assessment Management and Evaluation (FRAME) (RMA, 2011) as well as the process for risk management/reduction that is recommended as best practice.

## **Looked after and accommodated children**

### [Education Outcomes for Looked After Children](#)

The Scottish Government has published information on attainment and leaver destinations for school leavers in Scotland who were 'looked after' during the 2019-20 school year. The main findings reportedly show that education outcomes for



looked after children have improved over the last ten years but there are still large gaps compared to all pupils.

#### [Interim report of review of children's social care \(England\)](#)

The independent review of children's social care has published an interim report, 'The Case for Change', setting out initial themes from their work so far. The report sets out the areas where there is an 'urgent need' for a new approach and the themes identified are:

- We need to do more to help families
- We need a child protection system that keeps children safe through more effective support and decisive action
- The care system must build not break relationships
- Change will not happen without addressing the system causes

#### **Other Health and Social Care**

##### [Partnership Agreement between SSSC and the Care Inspectorate](#)

The SSSC and the Care Inspectorate have signed off a new strategic Partnership Agreement, which reflects our greater collaboration and joint working. The agreement sets out our common aims, values and vision for the future in these challenging yet promising times for the social care sector.

##### [Triennial review of Initial Case Reviews and Significant Case Reviews](#)

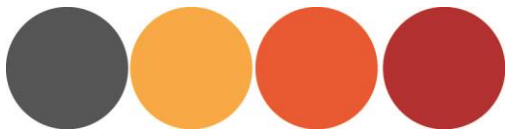
A Care Inspectorate report presenting the findings from review reports submitted to us between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2021, including the key findings from our analysis of 50 Initial Case Reviews (ICRs) that did not proceed to a full Significant Case Review (SCR), 23 SCRs and two thematic learning reviews, as well as the views and experiences from Child Protection Committee (CPC) members across Scotland.

##### [Recall of Co-codamol 30/500 Effervescent Tablets](#)

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has announced that Co-codamol 30/500 effervescent tablets with the batch number 1K10121 are being urgently recalled, as they have been found to potentially have the wrong amount of active ingredients.

##### [New president for nursing college](#)

It has been announced that Denise Chaffer has been elected the next President of the Royal College of Nursing. She will take up the role in July and serve until December 2022.



## Play

### [Research into impact of pandemic on the quality of play](#)

Play Scotland is highlighting the publication of a report by PlayBoard NI, Stranmillis University College and the Controlled Schools' Support Council examining the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the quality of play within early years classrooms, as well as the impact on children's engagement, social interaction and emotional well-being. The report also outlines recommendations aimed at enhancing the capacity of settings to continue to provide a high-quality playful learning experience in practice.

#### **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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