



Covid-19 - General

[Extension of safety mitigations in schools](#)

There will be an extension of safety mitigations in primary and secondary schools until at least the October holidays, the Scottish Government has confirmed. All current safety mitigations, including the use of face coverings by pupils in secondary school classrooms, will still be required, and additionally updated guidance will be provided in the information letters which include a strengthened recommendation to take a lateral flow test before returning to school.

[Young people to be offered vaccinations](#)

The Scottish Government has accepted the advice of the four UK Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) and will offer a dose of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine will be offered to all children and young people aged 12-15 who are not already covered by existing advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). From Monday 20 September, young people will be offered their injections in drop-in clinics and community settings followed by each young person receiving a letter inviting them to attend a community clinic.

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[Booster vaccines to be rolled out](#)

The UK Government has confirmed that they will accept the final advice from the independent Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) to offer booster vaccines to priority groups. These groups will be care home residents, health and social care workers, people aged over 50, those aged 16 to 49 years with underlying health conditions that put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19, adult carers, and adult household contacts of immunosuppressed individuals will be prioritised.

[Tracking spending on Covid-19](#)

A report tracking Scottish Government spending on Covid-19 by Audit Scotland suggests that transparency around what is classed as Covid-19 spending across government portfolios remains challenging in a fast-moving and unpredictable environment. Reportedly, the Scottish Government estimates it has spent over £8.8 billion of the £9.3 billion allocated to support Covid-19 spending in 2020/21, with over 300 individual spending measures announced to date and the largest amounts going to business, health and social care, and local government.

[Update on international travel](#)

Public Health Scotland has published an update on international travel and Covid-19, containing information on the current traffic light system, country specific Covid-19 risk, and advice for travellers.

[Managing Covid-19 cases in schools and childcare settings](#)

The National Clinical Direction Jason Leitch has sent a letter to parents and carers explaining how cases of COVID-19 in schools and childcare settings are being managed, and arrangements going forward.

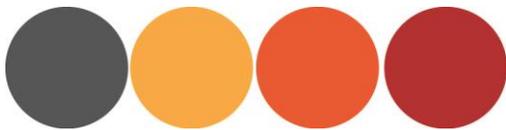
[Autumn and Winter Plan for Covid-19 response \(England\)](#)

Plans for Autumn and Winter 2021/22 have been published by the UK Government, outlining their comprehensive approach 'Plan A' and the 'Plan B' to be enacted if the data suggests further measures are necessary to protect the NHS.

Child Protection

[Unicef child protection strategy published](#)

The child protection strategy for 2021 – 2030 has been published by Unicef, aiming to provide a clear vision and strategic framework for UNICEF's work in Child Protection over this period to meet the vision of ensuring a world where all children are free from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices.



Education

[Phased return for education inspectors](#)

Education Scotland has announced that HM Inspectors of Education will adopt a phased approach to resuming scrutiny activity this academic year, with a particular focus on the impact of the pandemic and what schools have done or continue to do to support recovery and improvement. Having changed their approach to take account of the impact COVID-19 has had, HM Inspectors will undertake visits with timing arrangements planned in advance with local authorities and establishments. These visits will be planned and carried out before the end of 2021.

Justice

[Bairns' Hoose report published](#)

The Care Inspectorate, Healthcare Improvement Scotland and the Scottish Government have published 'Foundations for Bairns' Hoose (Scottish Barnahus)', highlighting examples of current practice and models, particular areas of excellence and new research evidence and literature. The Barnahus model provides a safe, homely and therapeutic setting where children can give evidence and receive ongoing support and this report aims to inform the Standards Development Group which was set up in 2019 to shape and develop Barnahus (Bairns' Hoose) standards for Scotland.

[Postgraduate certificate on children in conflict with the law](#)

The Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) is introducing a Postgraduate Certificate on Children & Young People in Conflict with the Law, in conjunction with the University of Strathclyde. Starting in January 2022, the fully online course has been newly developed by CYCJ to provide a professional postgraduate qualification for those who wish to improve outcomes for children and young people who are on the edges of, or in conflict with the law.

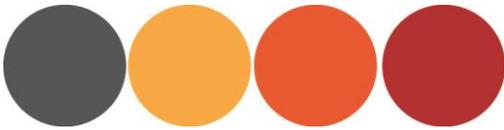
Other Health and Social Care

[Consulting on child welfare reporters and child contact services](#)

The Scottish Youth Parliament has published a report on engagement with young people on child welfare reporters and child contact services consultations. The Scottish Youth Parliament held a focus group and one-to-one interviews to gather information from young people on questions posed in the consultations.

[Cancer strategy for children and young people](#)

The Managed Service Network (MSN) for Children and Young People with cancer, NHS Scotland, and the Scottish Government have published ' Collaborative and Compassionate Cancer Care: The Cancer Strategy for Children and Young People



in Scotland 2021-2026'. The strategy celebrates achievements to date and sets out ambitions for the next five years.

Other

[Politicians and young people to take part in a climate surgery](#)

The Scottish Parliament is highlighting 'The Moment', a chance for children and young people to take part in a climate surgery with Members of the Scottish Parliament as part of a new initiative to ensure their voices are heard as part of the debate on the climate emergency. A number of new resources have been developed to enable children and young people to have their say, the Children's Parliament has developed a digital toolkit for children to explore climate issues and take part in creative activities to identify what issues they want to raise, and the Scottish Youth Parliament has similarly developed resources to empower young people across Scotland to explore and raise issues.

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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