



[Additional Support Needs](#)

[Child Protection](#)

[Education](#)

[Human Rights & Equalities](#)

[Looked After and Accommodated Children](#)

[Other Health and Social Care](#)

Additional Support Needs

[Report on provision for pupils with complex additional support needs](#)

Research on provision for pupils with complex additional support needs has been published by the Scottish Government. The research looked at policy, practice, partnerships and the perspectives of parents, carers, children and young people in Scotland to explore the ways that pupils with complex needs are supported. Resources, staffing, placements and training were emerging themes in all of the enquiry areas.

[Latest winners of Success Looks Different Awards announced](#)

Three schools and one nursery have been recognised for their work to support and celebrate pupils with additional support needs. The Success Looks Different Awards invited education settings to share how they support the achievements of their pupils outwith traditional academia. Created by the Inclusion Ambassadors, a national group of secondary school-age pupils with a range of additional support needs, the awards were originally developed as part of the Scottish Government's Additional Support for Learning Action Plan.



Child Protection

[Online Safety Bill passed](#)

The Online Safety Bill was passed by the House of Lords this week, the BBC reports. The legislation aims to make social media companies more responsible for users' safety on their platforms, forcing them to remove illegal content and protect children from some legal but harmful material. The Bill also includes provisions to require certain sites to stop children from viewing their content by checking the ages of users.

[Call for investigation into organised abuse rings in children's care homes](#)

A group of survivors of child abuse have called on the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry to investigate the extent of abuse by "organised predatory paedophiles" of children in care. The BBC reports that Shelagh McCall KC, representing the group In Care Abuse Survivors (Incas), told the inquiry that the links between institutions, individuals and groups must be investigated, including why perpetrators were able to move between institutions despite complaints.

Education

[Attainment Challenge progress summarised in new report](#)

Education Scotland has published the third National Summary Report for the Scottish Attainment Challenge 2022-2023. The key theme for this reporting period was learning, teaching and assessment and the findings show that professional learning is a key feature in improving the delivery of learning, teaching and assessment. Some local authorities acknowledged that further work is required to establish a shared vision and guidance on learning and teaching.

Human Rights & Equalities

[Reconsideration of UNCRC incorporation Bill](#)

The Scottish Government held a debate last week on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill (Reconsideration). The Scottish Parliament agreed to consider amendments to the legislation, which will incorporate the UNCRC in Scots law. The Bill was passed unanimously in 2021 but certain provisions within it were later ruled out with the Scottish Parliament's legislative competence at the Supreme Court. Proposed changes will mean that public authorities will be required to comply with the UNCRC requirements only when delivering devolved functions conferred by or under Acts of the Scottish Parliament or under common law powers. The Scottish Government has published its proposed amendments, [available here](#).



Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Appreciative inquiry into averting physical restraint in residential care](#)

CELCIS has highlighted the publication of a new pilot report on holding in residential child care, led by the University of Strathclyde. The report highlights how members of the Scottish Physical Restraint Action Group (SPRAG) referred to how little information is available about what is working well in residential child care in relation to physical restraint, particularly when care workers and children manage to avert a physical restraint. While data is collected to track physical restraints by the Care Inspectorate, there is no current mechanism to collect information when restraint is averted. This pilot project was developed to address this gap, and as the foundation for a larger study.

Other Health and Social Care

[Support for groups to engage in National Care Service design](#)

The Scottish Government has announced funding for third sector organisations, to support their engagement with the National Care Service co-design process. Organisations will receive £5000 each to facilitate their contributions to the ongoing consultation, including those who represent ethnic communities, LGBTI people and children and young people.

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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