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Covid-19 - General

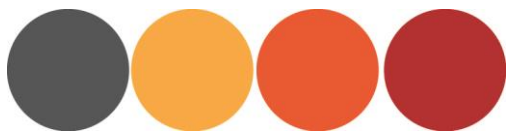
[Share pandemic experiences before engagement phase ends](#)

Let's Be Heard, the Scottish COVID-19 Inquiry's listening project, is urging people across Scotland to share their experiences of the pandemic before the project's national engagement phase ends on 20 December 2023. The team is keen to hear more from particular communities to ensure the Inquiry's investigations and recommendations are also informed by the specific impacts of the pandemic on members of these groups, such as men, LGBTQ+ people, and people aged under 20 or over 70 years old.

Child Protection

[Impact of policy landscape on child neglect practice](#)

Iriss has published a new insight paper on re-examining child neglect in the changing policy landscape. The paper highlights recent policy developments, such as the Promise, as well as GIRFEC and the UNCRC, suggesting a shift towards more rights-based and relationship-based ways of working in the context of neglect. The paper concludes with a number of key practice messages.



Early Learning and Childcare

[Data tool on childcare and play provision \(Wales\)](#)

Care Inspectorate Wales has published its new childcare and play self-reporting data tool. It provides access to a range of information and data from all registered childcare and play providers in Wales through the Self Assessment of Service Statement process. The data tool provides useful information on staff training, qualifications and which quality frameworks are in use.

Education

[Read Write Count with the First Minister](#)

The First Minister met primary school pupils this week to mark Book Week Scotland and highlight his personal commitment to the Read Write Count initiative. Humza Yousaf gifted pupils in primary two and three as part of the programme to support child literacy and numeracy.

Health

[Chickenpox vaccine to be introduced in Scotland](#)

Public Health Scotland has confirmed it will work with Scottish Government and NHS boards to make plans for the introduction of a chickenpox vaccination as part of the routine childhood schedule, following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). JCVI's recommendation is to offer a two-dose programme offering vaccination at 12 and 18 months of age, using the combined MMRV (measles, mumps, rubella and varicella) vaccine.

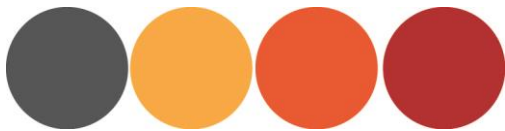
Other

[Fourth CELCIS report on children's services](#)

CELCIS has published its latest report as part of its research into the future of children's services in Scotland. The fourth report in the series, conducted as part of a wider study on the potential inclusion of children's services in the future National Care Service, focuses on workforce views and experiences. The workforce were asked about a number of issues, including local services, multi-agency working, transitions, participation, support for staff and leadership in children's services. A final report, pulling together the findings of the four CELCIS reports in the study, will be published in due course.

[Guidance on raising concerns in the workplace](#)

The Care Inspectorate and Scottish Social Service Council have issued a joint statement highlighting their guidance on how to raise concerns in the workplace and the importance of speaking up. Raising concerns in the workplace – Guidance for employers, social service workers and social work students clearly sets out the



workforce's roles and responsibilities and the protection offered to people raising concerns under whistleblowing legislation.

[Play Scotland AGM – 14 December 2023](#)

Play Scotland will hold its Annual General Meeting on 14 December 2023, with discussions focused on the state of play in Scotland. The event in Edinburgh will include the launch of Play Scotland's new report, State of Play.

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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