



care
inspectorate

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[Covid-19 - General](#)

[Disability](#)

[Early Learning and
Childcare](#)

[Education](#)

[Looked After and
Accommodated Children](#)

[Mental Health](#)

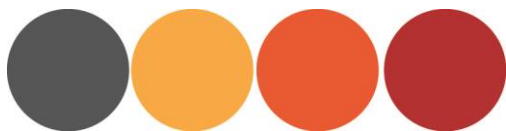
[Other Health and Social
Care](#)

[Workforce](#)

Covid-19 - General

[Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry findings from Let's Be Heard project](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Public Inquiry has published its first report from the Inquiry's listening project, Let's Be Heard. It includes the preliminary findings from more than 4000 responses and focuses on the three core questions asked by Let's Be Heard. Key findings from the report indicate that many respondents felt that they had received contradictory and inconsistent guidance around rules, restrictions, and the provision of personal protective equipment (PPE), and that key workers reported difficulties in accessing vaccination and childcare.



Disability

[Transitions Bill does not pass Stage 1](#)

The Scottish Parliament held a debate on the proposed Disabled Children and Young People (Transitions to Adulthood) (Scotland) Bill, and at decision time the majority voted against the Bill ensuring that it did not pass Stage 1. The Scottish Government's Minister for Children, Young People and Keeping the Promise, Natalie Don, in her speech noted the cross-party consensus for doing everything to improve the experiences of transitions to adulthood for disabled young people but that the Bill is not the best way to deliver those aims.

Early Learning and Childcare

[Draft shared inspection framework published for ELC services](#)

The Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland have published a draft version of the new shared inspection framework. A short survey will be open until 22 December 2023 and a final shared inspection framework will be published in January 2024. We will test out the shared framework on a number of inspections in settings from January 2024. During this time, we will continue to listen to and consider your views to make any changes that are needed. Both Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate will then implement the new framework during inspections from September 2024.

[Update on local authorities' progress on including childminders in funded ELC](#)

The Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) has published 'Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Audit 2023' on local authorities' progress in including childminders in delivering funded ELC, as at 1 August 2023. Amongst other findings, the publication reports that one in four childminders had been approved by local authorities to deliver funded ELC to eligible two year-olds, and one in 25 were actually delivering funded ELC to this group, and for three and four years olds it is one in four childminders approved and one in six delivering funded ELC to this group.

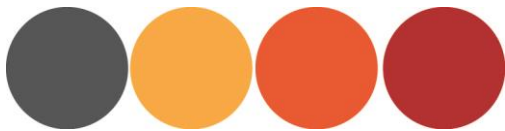
Education

[Interim Chief Inspection of Education appointed](#)

Education Scotland has announced that Janie McManus has been appointed as the Interim Chief Inspector of Education. Currently Strategic Director of Scrutiny at Education Scotland, Janie will take up the position and lead HM Inspectors during the current period of reform until the establishment of the new inspection body.

[Research report into behaviour in schools](#)

The Scottish Government has published a research report into 'Behaviour in Scottish schools' for 2023. The overall aim of the research is to provide a robust and clear



picture of relationships and behaviour in publicly-funded mainstream schools and of current policy and approaches for supporting relationships and behaviour. Amongst other findings, the research reports that in 2023 staff have perceived that the majority of pupils have been behaving well around the school and within the classroom, causing teaching staff few difficulties, and often accepting and mindful of their peers. However, the consensus of headteachers, class teachers and support staff has been that there has been a general deterioration in the behaviour of pupils in primary and secondary schools in Scotland since 2016. The Scottish Government has also [announced funding and development of a plan](#) setting out actions at national, local and school level to improve behaviour and support better relationships.

Looked After and Accommodated Children

[Factors making a positive difference to children and young people in residential care](#)

The Care Inspectorate's Mary Morris has submitted an article entitled "Reasons to be cheerful: Factors making a positive difference to children in residential care in Scotland" for the Autumn issue of the Scottish Journal of Residential Childcare (Vol 22 no 2). The key factors include stable loving relationships between children and staff, knowledge and understanding of trauma and the impact on children and young people cared for, carefully considered matching of children to the right resource for them, and effective leadership.

[Members' debate on the Promise Oversight Board Report](#)

The Scottish Parliament has held a members' business debate on the Promise Oversight Board Report. The contributions by MSPs discussed the contents of the Report, spoke to the need to make progress in keeping the Promise, and noted calls for putting a definition of 'care experienced' into legislation.

[Minutes of Reimagining Secure Care Governance Group](#)

The minutes of a meeting of the Reimagining Secure Care Governance Group have been published by the Scottish Government. The Group will feed into the Secure Care Group, co-chaired by the Scottish Government and COSLA to support progress and delivery of the necessary changes to support the provisions of the Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Bill and meeting the Promise.

Mental Health

[Self-harm strategy and action plan](#)

A dedicated self-harm strategy and action plan has been published by the Scottish Government, owned jointly with Cosla, which aims for anyone affected by self-harm, to receive compassionate support, without fear of stigma or discrimination. The vision of the Strategy is to promote positive mental health and wellbeing, prevent mental health issues occurring or escalating, and provide mental health and



wellbeing support and care. The three priority areas for the action plan are for compassionate understanding, support and services, and data and evidence.

Other Health and Social Care

[Public Health Scotland annual report and accounts](#)

The Annual Report and Accounts for the years to 31 March 2023 has been published by Public Health Scotland. The publication provides information to understand the purpose and key risks to the achievement of their objectives and how Public Health Scotland has performed during the year.

[Healthcare Improvement Scotland annual report and accounts](#)

Healthcare Improvement Scotland has published their annual report and accounts for the financial year which ended on 31 March 2023.

[Ofsted annual report \(England\)](#)

The annual report for the academic year September 2022 to August 2023 has been published by Ofsted. The report finds a broadly positive picture in all the sectors that Ofsted inspects and regulates. However, it draws particular attention to a troubling shift in behaviour, attendance and attitudes towards education since the pandemic. The last annual report by the His Majesty's Chief Inspector Amanda Spielman, the report also considers the changes and challenges over seven period she has been in office. Ms Spielman comments that the social contract between parents and schools has been fractured.

[Changes to Ofsted post-inspection arrangements and complaints handling \(England\)](#)

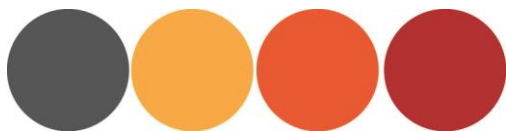
Ofsted has announced changes to post-inspection arrangements and complaints handling, reflecting the proposals set out in a recent consultation. The changes are for:

- Enhanced on-site professional dialogue during inspections to help address any issues.
- A new opportunity for providers to contact Ofsted the day after an inspection if they have unresolved concerns.
- New arrangements for finalising reports and considering formal challenges to inspection outcomes.
- Direct escalation to the Independent Complaints Adjudication Service for Ofsted (ICASO) and a periodic review of closed complaints using external representatives.

Workforce

[New cultural humility digital resource for health and social care workforce](#)

The NHS Scotland Academy has created a new digital resource to support positive cultural humility values and behaviours across the health and social care workforce.



The introductory digital course includes videos, reflective activities, scenarios, and a resource pack.

[RCN calls for NHS-wide pay scheme reform](#)

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) has highlighted that the Agenda for Change review has reported its recommendations to the Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care, and is calling on the Scottish Government to approve funding to implement the recommendations set out by the review.

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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