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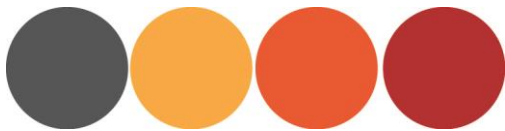
Covid-19 - General

[Equality statement published by Scottish Covid-19 inquiry](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry has published a policy statement on its approach to equalities. The statement is designed to complement its trauma-informed and human rights-based approach. The inquiry has committed to working collaboratively with interested parties to increase confidence among the diverse communities it serves.

[Core participants' closing statements published by Scottish Inquiry](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry has published core participants' written closing statements ahead of its final health and social care impact hearings which will take place on 27 and 28 June 2024.



Early Learning and Childcare

[Me, my family and my childcare setting](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published a practice note and guide for families on the importance of meaningful relationships and strong connections with their early learning and childcare (ELC) setting. The publication are designed to highlight the importance of families being physically present in their child's setting as part of their daily experiences. The Care Inspectorate has brought together examples and insights from ELC providers, outlining their own experience of supporting a family centred culture within their setting. Families have also contributed their views and experiences.

Health

[Update on RSV vaccination](#)

Chief Medical Officer Professor Sir Gregor Smith has updated health boards on the new Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccine for pregnant women and older adults. For the protecting infants (maternal) programme, vaccination will be offered from August 2024 to pregnant women or birthing people reaching 28 weeks gestation up to delivery on or after 1 August 2024, as a year-round continuous offer. This does not replace the existing at-risk infants programme which will continue for those who are eligible.

[New series of early years seminars launched](#)

Early Years Scotland has launched a new series of professional learning seminars for early years professionals, with the first event focusing on understanding young brains and early environments. The seminar will feature guest presenters and takes place in Glasgow on 4 July.

Justice

[Call for cross-portfolio approach to tackling issues for families visiting prison](#)

Families Outside has sent a joint letter with over 15 organisations to several Scottish Government Cabinet Secretaries, calling for an urgent cross-portfolio response to the challenges facing families when travelling as visitors to Scottish prisons. The joint letter addresses issues and key findings from Families Outside's recently published [travel report](#) which highlights the costs and impacts of imprisonment to families and calls attention to the issues families face when trying to maintain contact with a loved one in prison.



Looked After and Accommodated Children

[The Promise launches Plan 24-30](#)

The Promise has launched a dedicated website for Plan 24-30. The Plan sets out “WHO needs to do WHAT by WHEN to #KeepThePromise by 2030” and is organised around the five foundations of the promise: voice, family, care, people, and scaffolding. The report [Reflect, Refocus, Reset – Plan 24-30](#) has also been published which provides detail around the work undertaken to develop Plan 24-30, what it is and how it will work.

Other

[Draft Stage 2 amendments for National Care Service Bill](#)

Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, Maree Todd, has shared the Scottish Government’s draft Stage 2 amendments for the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill with the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee. It has been confirmed that the Committee will gather written and oral evidence on the draft amendments, which will then be considered by the Government before the final amendments are lodged.

[Joint play project for school summer holidays](#)

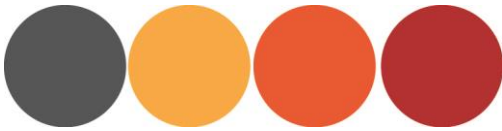
Play Scotland and Wee Seeds have announced a collaborative project, Summer of Connection, which aims to provide ideas for the summer holidays so families can find time to play. The organisations have said they want to help families find the space and time to play, be bored, and look after their physical and mental wellbeing.

[Annual report published by Children's Commissioner](#)

The Children and Young People’s Commissioner Scotland has published its annual report covering the period from April 2023 to March 2024. The report looks back at what the Commissioner’s office has achieved in the past year noting the launch of a new strategic plan in March, the expanded role of the Young Advisors group, and its work around child poverty, keeping the Promise and education. A [children and young people’s](#) version and an [easy read](#) version of the report are also available.

[Charities call on next Government to address harms caused by online pornography](#)

Barnardo’s, alongside a number of other charities, have written an open letter to the leaders of the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrats parties, calling for action to tackle the widespread harms caused by online pornography. The letter calls on the next Government to pass legislation to ensure that pornographic content is regulated online the same way that it is offline, ensure the robust implementation of highly effective age assurance to prevent children accessing pornographic content wherever it is found online, and commit to continuing the Independent Pornography Review, led by Baroness Bertin.

**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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