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## Education

### [Guidance on physical intervention in schools published](#)

The Scottish Government has published 'Included, Engaged and Involved Part 3: A Relationships and Rights-based Approach to Physical Intervention in Schools', for education authorities grant-aided and independent schools in Scotland on the use of physical intervention. Developed in collaboration with the Physical Intervention Working Group, the guidance aims to improve children and young people's learning experiences in school by promoting positive relationships, behaviour and wellbeing, minimising the use of restraint and seclusion and eliminating their misuse, and ensuring children and young people's rights are understood, respected and complied with in all decisions around the use of physical intervention, restraint and seclusion.



## Education

### [National approach to anti-bullying](#)

The Scottish Government has published 'Respect for All: The National Approach to Anti-Bullying for Scotland's Children and Young People', setting out the national approach to anti-bullying, focusing specifically on bullying between children and young people and aims to ensure that all sectors are consistently contributing to a holistic approach to anti-bullying. The guidance replaces previous and supplementary guidance, outlining the policy ambition to embed a consistent approach to reporting, recording and monitoring incidents of bullying through SEEMiS or other information management systems in independent schools and organisations working with children and young people.

## Health

### [Joint working for youth agency and public health body](#)

Public Health Scotland and YouthLink Scotland have issued a joint statement committing to working together to improve the long-term health outcomes of Scotland's children and young people. The joint statement discusses how youth work benefits young people and communities, its strategic importance in prevention and early intervention, and joint work on key priorities.

### [Final progress report on the delivery of the Women's Health Plan 2021-24](#)

The final report summarising the progress made on delivering the Women's Health Plan 2021-2024 has been published by the Scottish Government. The report outlines the progress made on cross-cutting actions, including developing new information resources on menopause, periods and menstrual health, planning for pregnancy, women's heart health and hysterectomy, appointing a Women's Health Champion, and the publication of a [Review of the Data Landscape](#) which sets out a range of publicly available data on the health of women and girls in Scotland. The report also notes that over the coming months the government will work with women and girls, healthcare professionals, academics and the third sector to ask what they want to see in the next phase of the Women's Health Plan.

## Justice

### [Independent review of placement of girls in secure estate \(England\)](#)

The UK Government's Minister for Youth Justice Sir Nic Dakin has commissioned Susannah Hancock to lead an independent review into the placement of girls in the children and young people's secure estate from November 2024, which will consider current placement options and care for girls in the youth estate and report back in three months. In addition to recommendations on the most effective placements options, the review will recommend resources and support required so that staff are best equipped to meet girls' needs.



## Looked After and Accommodated Children

### [Update on Promise activities following publication of Plan 24-30](#)

The Independent Strategic Advisor of The Promise Fiona Duncan has published an update on the key activities following the publication of Plan 24-30 and next steps. The open letter details events held, development of route maps, and future updates for the Plan 24-30 website.

### [Updated restrictive practices self-evaluation tool published](#)

The Care Inspectorate, as a member of Restraint Reduction Scotland, has worked collaboratively with the Scottish Physical Restraint Action Group (SPRAG) to review and update our restrictive practices self-evaluation tool. Changes include an amended layout to make individual sections and headings clearer, revised wording to reduce duplication, an additional section for each area to allow people to celebrate achievements, updated good practice links, and further information on restrictive practice definitions and notifications to the Care Inspectorate.

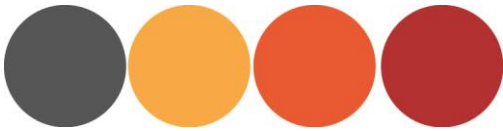
### [Study on children and young people in kinship care](#)

The Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection (Celcis) has published a study, 'Growing Up in Kinship Care', examining the data of over 19,000 children and young people who had lived in kinship care over a ten year period. The study reportedly finds that kinship carers are often supporting children with complex needs, and it is important that tailored support is in place for the children and their carers, there is regional variation in terms of how likely children are to live with kinship families, with higher numbers seen in areas of high deprivation, and there are many children in Scotland living with kinship families who are not 'looked after' by their local authority.

## Mental Health

### [Monitoring report of admissions of young people to non-specialist wards](#)

The Mental Welfare Commission (MWC) has published a monitoring report for admissions of young people under the age of 18 to non-specialist wards in Scotland. In 2023-24, the number of children and young people under the age of 18 admitted to non-specialist hospital wards - primarily adult wards - for treatment of their mental health difficulties in Scotland was 67 admissions involving 59 children and young people, lower than the figures seen in 2022-23 (79 admissions, 66 children and young people). The MWC also reportedly finds that access to specialist advocacy remains limited as 63% of young people were said to have access to advocacy, but less than 13% had access to advocacy that specialised in the needs and rights of children and young people.



## Other Health and Social Care

### [Survey report on social workers](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has published a survey report on Scotland's filled and vacant social worker and senior social worker posts in local authorities. Reportedly, there has been a 4.8% increase in the whole time equivalent (WTE) number of practising social workers between December 2023 and June 2024, the WTE of practising social workers has also increased by 14.6% between December 2019 and June 2024, and in June 2023 the vacancy rate was 12.9% compared to 9.3% in June 2024.

### [Reflection and self-assessment tool to improve chronology practice](#)

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss) has launched a tool designed to help leaders to improve chronology practice. A reflection and self-assessment tool aimed at practitioners, those in learning and development and training roles, team leaders and managers at all levels, working with children, young people, and adults across Social Work, Social Care, Education, Police, Justice, and Health sectors, the tool's scope acknowledges that chronologies are essential across the lifespan, and enhancing chronology practice requires a holistic approach.

#### **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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