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Care Experience

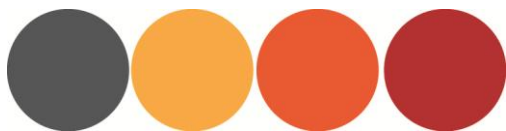
[Paid leave campaign for kinship carers](#)

A charity is calling for statutory paid leave for kinship carers as part of the UK Government's review into parental leave, due to begin next month. Kinship shared its survey results showing 45 per cent of kinship carers have been forced to give up their employment, with four in five saying they never returned to any form of work.

Early Learning and Childcare

[Pre-census data returns for ELC](#)

The Scottish Government has published guidance relating to the Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) census, which will take place during 8-12 September 2025. Settings providing funded ELC, including to eligible 2 year olds, will be included in the census and local authorities have been invited to check the data held by ScotXed to ensure it is correct. Childminders are not included in the census.



Education

[Report on how low income can affect a child's ability to attend school](#)

The Child Poverty Action Group has published a briefing on how poverty is preventing young people from attending school. The charity's research shows 16 per cent of all 11-18 year olds in the UK have missed school at least once because they didn't have something they needed to attend. Almost half of these young people said they did so because they did not have the correct uniform or kit. Across all secondary school pupils, those in receipt of free school meals were more than three times as likely to give this reason for missing school than their peers.

Health

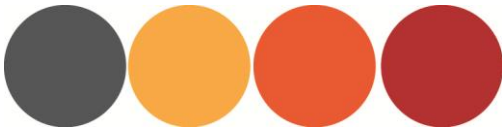
[Rise in measles cases in Scotland](#)

The latest data suggests more cases of measles were recorded in the first five months of 2025 than in the whole of 2024, the BBC reports. There have been 26 cases of laboratory confirmed measles in Scotland this year alone. Although numbers remain small, health experts are concerned about low vaccination rates in some areas and warned this could lead to many more cases. Vaccination rates in Scotland remain high, with 90 per cent of children having the two doses by the age of six, but rates have fallen slightly in recent years which public health experts have attributed to vaccine fatigue and misinformation.

Other

[Summary of engagement activities for Scottish Covid Inquiry](#)

The Scottish Covid-19 Inquiry has published an engagement summary of activities for their public participation project, Let's Be Heard. The project was set up with the aim to give a voice to everyone who was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in Scotland between 2020 and 2022. The project has now completed its public engagement and its in-house research team is now analysing all the experiences which have been shared to help inform the Inquiry's investigations and the recommendations it makes to Scottish Ministers.

**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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