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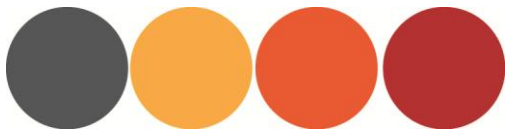
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## Early Learning and Childcare

### [Early learning and childcare statistics 2024](#)

The Care Inspectorate has published 'Early Learning and Childcare Statistics 2024', excluding childcare agencies, this report is based on ELC services on our register and incorporates our evaluations of the quality of these services, as well as additional information from annual returns completed by service providers. The statistics include longer-term trends as well as a focus on changes in the most recent year to 31 December 2024. Key findings include that there were 3,414 daycare of children services as of 31 December 2024, and overall there were 214,070 children registered with an early learning and childcare service.



## Education

### [Financial Resolution lodged for outdoor education Bill](#)

The Scottish Government's Minister for Children, Young People and The Promise has confirmed in a statement to the Scottish Parliament that a Financial Resolution has been lodged for the Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill. In order for the Bill to progress, a motion for a Financial Resolution must be lodged within six months of the conclusion of Stage 1. The Minister also noted that further consideration must be given to the total potential costs of the Bill, equity of provision and workforce implications.

## Equalities

### [Learning from pathfinders on child poverty interventions](#)

The Scottish Government has published 'Delivering place-based interventions and system change to tackle child poverty: learning and reflections from the child poverty pathfinders' evaluation', presenting learning from the evaluation of the child poverty pathfinders in Dundee and Glasgow about key challenges in delivering place-based child poverty interventions. Key learning includes the need to use data effectively to inform and support delivery, the value of, and challenges around, delivering holistic, person-centred, relationship-based support, and designing ambitious programmes that aim to change how services work with families, rather than simply working within existing structures. The Scottish Government has also published '[Evaluating evolving and complex programmes: learning and reflections from the child poverty pathfinders' evaluation](#)', which is intended to support policy makers, programme delivery teams and evaluators to get the best out of future evaluations of similar initiatives.

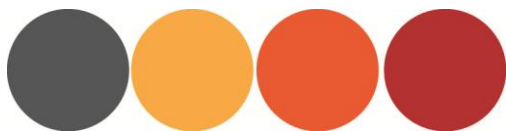
### [Partnerships announced to test and improve services to help families in poverty](#)

During a summit on child poverty, the Scottish Government's First Minister has announced Fairer Futures Partnerships (FFP) to collaborate with local councils, communities, and the third sector to test and improve services to better help families living in poverty. These partnerships will reportedly bring together a range of services, across childcare, education, health and social care, housing, employment and beyond, to provide whole family support.

## Health

### [National vaccination campaign to protect newborn babies \(England\)](#)

The UK Government's Department of Health and Social Care has launched a national vaccination campaign, 'Stay Strong. Get Vaccinated', to protect newborn babies. Expectant mothers are being urged to get vaccinated against flu, RSV and whooping cough to protect their babies this winter, and a second phase of the



campaign in October will aim to encourage people with long-term health conditions to come forward for flu vaccination.

## **Justice**

### [Joint project for Children's Reporter to work with police divisions](#)

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) will collaborate with Police Scotland on a joint project for a Children's Reporter working with the Police Division Hubs of L, Q and U Division. The aim is to establish a Children's Hearing champion model – training, enabling and supporting around 20 Champions made up of Police Scotland staff in each of the three Divisions, and each Children's Reporter based in the Hub with work collaboratively with Police Scotland colleagues around referral to SCRA processes.

## **Other Health and Social Care**

### [Social care staff invited to get a free flu vaccine](#)

The Care Inspectorate, Scottish Social Services Council, Scottish Care and the Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland are reminding social care staff of all ages that they are eligible to receive the flu vaccine. The winter vaccine programme is targeted at those delivering direct care, whether employed by local authorities, independent or third sector employers. Social care organisations and employers have discretion to assess if their workforce, or a proportion of it, are in direct contact with people receiving services, including those working with children and young people. Individuals are asked to self-identify as a social care worker who has direct contact with people receiving services when booking vaccination appointments or when arriving at a vaccination clinic.

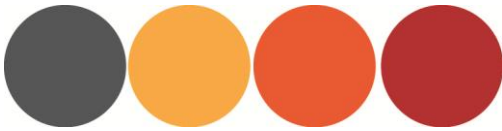
## **Workforce**

### [Framework launched to embrace innovation in health and care](#)

Public Health Scotland has launched the new Innovation Framework, described as a “roadmap to embed innovation” at the heart of work to improve health outcomes for the Scottish population. The Innovation Framework features two main pillars: a focus on prevention as a key part of improving health outcomes and building innovation capability and mindset in the workforce.

### [Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme open for applications](#)

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) are highlighting that applications for cohort 28 of the Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme (DLP) are open to all health and social care settings in Scotland including health, social care, social work, housing, charities and the third sector. The programme is designed for anyone who would like to develop their leadership skills and is interested in digital health and care. It includes a series of interactive learning sessions and peer support groups to allow participants to progress a digital project within their organisation.

**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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