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Care Experience

Updated Promise Scotland logo

The Promise Scotland has updated their logo to represent their role in supporting those working to keep the promise, and provide a visual difference between The Promise Scotland, the promise itself, and other bodies set up to keep it. Whilst the Promise Scotland logo should reportedly be used only for work they are involved in, the promise heart is for anyone who is doing work to keep the promise, to be able to show their commitment to upholding the principles and recommendations of the Independent Care Review.



Disability

Children with disabilities participating in sport

Children First is marking Scottish Disability Sport Week, with Scottish Disability Sport, by promoting steps to assist children with disabilities to participate in and enjoy sport. Tips by Children First include listening to children's voices about what helps them feel safe, included, and confident, reducing hidden costs where possible, creating welcoming, rights-informed environments, being flexible, and building relationships with families.

Early Learning and Childcare

Nappy changing updated guidance

We have published updated guidance on nappy changing for early learning and childcare settings (excluding childminders). Providing a practical guide on aspects of nappy changing while balancing the need to reduce the risk of infection for children, staff and anyone accessing the service, the guidance outlines that all early learning and childcare building-based settings (excluding childminders) that care for children who use nappies must have appropriate changing facilities, including a safe, clean environment with appropriate equipment. Children's privacy, dignity and, where appropriate independence, must be respected and always promoted.

Health

Report on uptake of HPV vaccine for S1 pupils

Public Health Scotland has published a report on the uptake amongst S1 pupils of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination. Reportedly, despite a slight increase in rates among S1 pupils in 2024/25 compared with the previous year, HPV vaccination uptake has gradually declined over the past 10 years. The latest data show that inequalities persist; with uptake rates lower among males, for certain ethnicities, and for pupils living in the most deprived, as well as the most remote, areas.

Report on causes of health inequity in childhood (England)

Barnardo's, together with the UCL Institute of Health Equity (IHE), and three Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), have published a report into the root causes of health inequity in childhood in England. 'Born Unequal: Tackling the Root Causes of Health Inequity in Childhood' outlines the results of pilot programmes in areas identified as having high levels of child health inequity, informed by the voices of children and young people alongside system collaboration across health, local authority and Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS). Launching alongside the report is the Child Health Equity Monitoring Framework, a resource which aims to help local health systems understand and tackle the social determinants shaping children's lives, from housing and education to safety, connection, and community.



Justice

Evaluation of Children Affected by Parental Imprisonment Programme

Early Years Scotland (EYS) has published an evaluation report on their Children Affected by Parental Imprisonment Programme, which runs across seven Scottish prisons and supports young children, their imprisoned parents and their families. The report outlines a literature overview, a summary of survey data gathered by imprisoned parents and their families, and a thematic analysis of informal interviews ('chats') conducted with Family Engagement Practitioners (FEPs) and Family Support Workers (FSWs), families benefitting from the service and Scottish Prison Service staff. Key recommendations include continued support for families after release, improving accessibility for families visiting, reducing stigma and raising awareness, ensuring prison activities are child led, and increasing awareness for prison staff of the needs of neurodiverse parents and children.

Other Health and Social Care

How people experiencing care are included in reform of social care services

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) has published a report 'Shaping change together: co-producing innovation in social care', examining how people experiencing care, carers and families are involved in shaping and reforming social care services. Using findings from a national survey, the report explores how collaboration works in practice, what barriers persist and how innovation can be made to deliver improvement.

Workforce

Engaging with school aged children on updated occupational standards

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) is highlighting their work in engaging with all people with lived experience, specifically school aged children, in updating the National Occupational Standards (NOS) and the current SVQ and modern apprenticeship 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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