

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION & NEWS UPDATE
2nd September 2009**

Driving forward change for social workers
(01/09/09)

Children's Secretary, Ed Balls and actress Samantha Morton have launched a television campaign to recruit more than 5,000 social workers for vulnerable children, adults and families.

"Help Give Them a Voice" shows how social workers change the lives of thousands of children and adults every day, by giving a voice to the most vulnerable in society. The campaign features 6 well known TV and film actors, each playing the role of a child or adult in need of the support of a social worker and highlights the invaluable work social workers do every day.

The campaign aims to recruit not only new social workers, but social workers who may have left the profession and those looking for a career change.

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2009_0156
<http://www.helpgivethemavoice.com/>

New website for CWDC (01/09/09)

CWDC has launched a new website and refreshed branding to reflect its increased remit and responsibility to lead change in the children and young people's workforce. Central to the brand refreshment and the issue of comprehensive brand guidelines is the recognition of the importance of all children and young people's organisations and services working together to place the child at the centre of all services.

<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/>

Childminding and Childcare Groups: A passion to be outstanding (28/08/09)

What are the secrets of successful childcare? You can find out what outstanding providers told Ofsted in this leaflet. The leaflet also features good practice in the Early Years Foundation Stage, and include 10 questions for childcare providers to think about when reflecting on their practice.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Care/Childcare/Childcare-groups-a-passion-to-be-outstanding>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/9972/115294/file/Childcare%20groups%20a%20passion%20to%20be%20outstanding.pdf>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/9973/115299/file/Childminding%20a%20passion%20to%20be%20outstanding.pdf>

Healthy Schools: 'Fit for the Future'

(26/08/09)

This leaflet sets out simple advice and ideas to get children active and eating healthily. It is free for Healthy Schools Co-ordinators.

<http://www.healthyschools.gov.uk/Resources/Detail.aspx?ResID=1573&RefSearch=%2fResources%2fList.aspx%3fstart%3d0%26order%3d0%26dissemination%3d0%26otherProgrammes%3d0%26scope%3d11%26types%3d2%26count%3d10>

<http://www.csp.org.uk/director/public/moveforhealth.cfm>

Firework Safety

This page provides links to information about firework safety for teachers, display organizers and retailers

<http://www.berr.gov.uk/fireworks/resources.htm>

Annual review of the National Statistician on childhood, infant and perinatal deaths, in England and Wales (02/09/09)

Contains detailed analyses of all stillbirths, infant and perinatal deaths and data on deaths of children aged under-16 by cause of death, sex and age-group. Also analyses by some of the key risk factors affecting stillbirths and infant deaths, obtained by linking the baby's death record with the corresponding birth record - father's social class, age and country of birth of mother, previous children born within the marriage, and birthweight.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=6305>

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/ipm0909.pdf>

<http://fsid.org.uk/Page.aspx?pid=657>

Access to post approval training and learning opportunities

The Fostering Network is carrying out a short survey to find out about the experiences of people who have been fostering for over 2 years regarding access to training opportunities throughout their career in fostering.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=fAqmUeAXGKulWUuL3yiMuA_3d_3d

Provisional registration now required for all overseas trained teachers (01/09/09)

OTTs make a valuable contribution to the teaching profession in England. A change to the GTC's regulations means that from 1 September 2009 OTTs teaching in a maintained school or a non-maintained special school must be provisionally registered with the GTC. There is currently no charge for provisional registration.

For more information about OTTs visit:

http://www.gtce.org.uk/registration/features/ott_reg010909/

HSE myth of the month: Health and safety bans traditional school ties

(September 2009)

Few parents would see wearing school ties as a safety issue and we agree with them. After all, millions of kids have been wearing ties for years without any real problems. Taking simple precautions during laboratory work or around machinery makes sense. But if the concern is about kids fighting, although clip-on ties may help, the real issue is discipline. So no, health and safety doesn't ban school ties. It's down to the school to make decisions about uniform, not HSE.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/myth/sept09.htm>

Warning to those hiring out inflatable leisure devices (26/08/09)

The HSE is warning people who hire out inflatable leisure devices that they must ensure all operators are fully trained and that the equipment is properly anchored to the ground at all times.

S3(2) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 states: "It shall be the duty of every self-employed person to conduct his undertaking in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that he and other persons (not being his employees) who may be affected thereby are not thereby exposed to risks to their health or safety".

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/press/2009/coiwm34409.htm>

RoSPA re-issues baby bath seat advice (28/08/09)

RoSPA is re-issuing its guidance about baby bath seats - and re-evaluating the safety warnings - following discussions among parents prompted by the death of a 9 month old girl who drowned after slipping out of a bath seat while left unattended.

http://www.rospa.com/news/releases/2009/pr710_28_08_09_leisure.htm

Family Mediation Helpline (26/08/09)

The UK Justice Minister has launched the Family Mediation Helpline website which gives advice on how to avoid damaging and expensive court battles by using mediation.

Her Majesty's Courts Service launched the Family Mediation Helpline in May 2006. Trained operators provide information to callers about family mediation, whether it is suitable for particular cases and whether parties may be eligible for public funding.
<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/news/12073.html>
<http://www.familymediationhelpline.co.uk/>

Young people, knives and guns (06/08/09)

Research published by the Centre for Crime and Justice Studies concludes that there is little evidence to support police-led interventions to tackle knife violence.

Following a review of gun and knife crime strategies, the report argues that a 'zero tolerance' approach to weapon possession is not effective in reducing crime or changing attitudes' among young people. It also casts doubt on the effectiveness of stop and search tactics and suggests that police actions alone are unlikely to have a major impact on the carrying of knives.

The research represents a review of the effectiveness of approaches to gun and knife crime and examines evidence from the UK, US and a number of other countries.

Amongst its key findings, it notes that:

- Focusing on weapons themselves, rather than the underlying causes of violence, can become a distraction. Gun and knife crime need to be viewed in context, as expressions of wider phenomena of youth disaffection and violence.

- Effective interventions appear to be holistic, engaging with the big questions of disadvantage and social exclusion, as well as addressing individual, familial and neighbourhood problems.
- Local multi-agency, integrated strategies, using various approaches to prevention and suppression have proved more successful (at least re US juvenile gun violence) than enforcement-led interventions by agencies operating in isolation.

http://www.nationalschool.gov.uk/policyhub/news_item/young_people_knives09.asp
<http://www.crimeandjustice.org.uk/youngpeopleknivesandguns.html>

Study into FGM (27/08/09)

GPs and health professionals working in maternity, obstetrics, gynaecology, and sexual health are being asked to take part in new study into Female Genital Mutilation in a bid to better ensure that services to protect women and girls are as effective as possible.

The study aims to increase the Government's knowledge about women and girls affected by FGM in England. It will also look at how the training needs of key health professionals could be improved and provide vital information for the development of appropriate sexual and reproductive health services. The findings will inform the forthcoming X-govt strategy on tackling Violence Against Women and Girls.

FGM, also known as female genital cutting, can cause long-term mental and physical suffering, difficulty in giving birth, infertility and even death. It is illegal in the UK. The survey will run throughout September.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/News/Recentstories/DH_104661
<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/Content/Detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=406157&SubjectId=2>

The Children and Young Persons Act 2008 (Commencement No.2) (England) Order 2009 SI 2273

The following provisions of the Act in relation to England come into force on 01/09/09 —

- a) s8(1) (provision of accommodation and maintenance for children who are looked after by a LA) in so far as it inserts into the 1989 Act(2) - (i) s22C(11), and (ii) s22F;
- b) s8(2) and Schedule 1 in so far as they relate to paragraph 4 of that Schedule;
- c) s10(1) (IROs) in so far as it inserts, for the purpose only of enabling regulations to be made, ss 25A(4) and 25B(1)(b) and (d) and (2)(a) into the 1989 Act;
- d) s15 (duty of LA to ensure visits to looked after children and others) in so far as it inserts into the 1989 Act - (i) for the purpose only of enabling regulations to be made, s23ZA(3)(a), and (ii) s23ZA(4);
- e) s16(1) (independent visitors for children looked after by a LA) in so far as it inserts into the 1989 Act - (i) for the purpose only of enabling regulations to be made, s23ZB(1)(a), and (ii) s23ZB(9);
- f) s20 (designated member of staff at school for pupils looked after by a LA) in so far as it is not already in force;
- g) s22(3) and (5) (assistance to pursue education or training) in so far as they insert s23E(1B) and (1C) into the 1989 Act;
- h) s25(4) (breaks from caring for disabled children) in so far as it inserts, for the purpose only of enabling regulations to be made, sub-paragraph (2) into paragraph 6 of Schedule 2 to the 1989 Act;
- i) s29 (notification of matters relating to persons carrying on or managing children's homes etc) in so far as it inserts, for the purpose only of enabling regulations to be made, s30A(3) and (4) into the 2000 Act (3);

- j) s36 (entitlement of a relative to apply for a residence order);
- k) s37 (duration of residence orders);
- l) s38 (entitlement of a relative to apply for a special guardianship order); and
- m) s42 and Schedule 4 (repeals) in so far as they relate to the repeal of the following provisions of the 1989 Act - (i) s12(5) and (6), and (ii) the words "or 12(5)" in section 91(10).

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/uksi_2009_2273_en_1

The Education (Supply of Information about the School Workforce) (No. 2) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 SI 2266

This instrument amends the regulations which were drawn up to allow the collection of individual level school workforce data from schools and LAs in the School Workforce Census.

The Census has been subject to piloting during 2008 and 2009 involving extensive review of all processes and including feedback from schools, LAs and software suppliers. These have exposed some shortcomings in the regulations which this instrument seeks to amend before the collection goes live in 2010.

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/uksi_2009_2266_en_1

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/em/uksiem_20092266_en.pdf

New FAQs on the Vetting and Barring Scheme (25/08/09)

The CRB has recently compiled a new list of FAQs about the Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS)

http://www.crb.gov.uk/faqs/vetting_and_barring_scheme.aspx

Employer loophole could leave social care users at risk, says GSCC (27/08/09)

Responding to the CQC consultation on the criteria for compliance with the Health and Social Care Act 2008, the GSCC welcomed the inclusion of the Code of Practice for Employers of Social Care Workers in the proposed regulations.

As a result, CQC registered agencies will be required to carry out checks into workers' background and ensure they are suitably registered for their role. They would also be compelled to follow the code including informing the GSCC of misconduct and helping workers abide by the CoP for Social Care Workers.

However, whilst this would catch most care workers, it would miss the majority of social workers as the regulations do not cover LAs or employment agencies which are the major employers of social workers.

LAs are inspected through a CAA, led by the Audit Commission, which assesses broadly how well local public services are delivered but will not assess detail such as whether checks have been made on staff. Inspections by Ofsted, which contribute to the CAA, will cover children and families social workers and the GSCC will be in discussion with Ofsted to explore how inspections can support compliance with the code of practice for employers.

The exclusion of employment agencies is of particular concern as the government is also planning to relax other requirements overseen by the DBIS that require agencies to vet workers before supplying them.

http://www.gsc.org.uk/News+and+events/Media+releases/news_release27-08-09.htm

Risk of harm/serious harm - YJB

Differences in the definitions of risk of harm/serious harm between the YJB and HM Inspectorate of Probation have caused some confusion for YOTs. The YJB has therefore developed additional guidance and clarification to help YOTs manage work in this complex and very important area.

<http://www.yjb.gov.uk/en-gb/practitioners/ImprovingPractice/ManagingRisk/>

Alcohol Concern Survey (27/08/09)

This survey seeks the views of social work professionals on alcohol, child protection and wellbeing and domestic abuse.

The results will be publicised during Alcohol Awareness Week (w/c 19/10/09) in order to highlight and raise awareness of how alcohol misuse can affect children and families. The charity hopes the results will help them campaign for more Government help for families with alcohol misuse problems.

Statistics show that:

- 46% of domestic violence offenders were under the influence of alcohol when they committed acts of violence
- There are up to 1.3m children affected by parental alcohol misuse (Cabinet Office, 2004)
- Women experiencing domestic abuse are up to 15 times more likely to misuse alcohol than women generally (Stark and Flitcraft, 1996)
- Alcohol-related domestic violence increases the risks to children; alcohol plays a part in 25-33% of cases of child abuse (AHRSE, 2004)

Closing Date: 18th September 2009

<http://www.basw.co.uk/Default.aspx?tabid=105&articleID=989>

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2fahp0tlb6L8Xnu5_2fYEqIfg_3d_3d

Parental Experience of Services for Disabled Children: National survey

This report draws on the findings of a survey primarily designed to generate an overall indicator and set of sub-indicators which measure parental views on the 5 elements of the *Core Offer* as set out in AHDC. These comprise: *Information; Transparency; Assessment; Participation; and Feedback.*

Key findings

- 3 in 10 parents with a disabled child responding to the survey were in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) on behalf of their child
- 42% of children had a special educational need (SEN)
- 25% of all included in the survey were in receipt of a statement of SEN
- Conditions affecting cognitive function - including learning, behaviour and communication - were the most common types of problems reported by parents.
- Specialist health and care & family support services were most commonly used by children in receipt of DLA; and specialist educational services by those with a statement of SEN
- Care & family support services were the least commonly used out of the 3 service sectors, with only 26% of all parents, and 46% of parents in receipt of DLA for their child, using any care & family support services.
- Compared with health and education services, parents were least satisfied with the level and quality of care & family support services received:
 - 31% of those who considered they had a care & family support need said they received little or none of the services they required, and
 - 22% rated the service they did receive as poor.



- Respondents from BME groups were generally less satisfied than average in terms of the level and quality of health and care & family support services received
- Only a small proportion of parents within each of the 3 service sectors had made a complaint about services received (5% or less within each of the 3 sectors). Complaints regarding health services were particularly prevalent among Black parents with 12% making a complaint.
- Complaints were also more common within health and care & family support when the child had palliative care needs.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15826&type=5&resultspage=1>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RB146.pdf>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR146.pdf>

Parental Experience of Services for Disabled Children: Qualitative research

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15825&type=5&resultspage=1>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR147.pdf>

Primary Care Trust Autumn Statements for Services for Disabled Children (21/08/09)

This letter from Dame Christine Beasley DBE, Chief Nursing Officer, includes a questionnaire template which PCTs may find useful when setting out their autumn statements on the development of services to disabled children.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletters/DH_104641

Disability Equality Schemes: The three-yearly review

All listed public authorities, subject to the specific duty to prepare and publish a DES are required to review and publish a revised scheme every 3 years. The purpose of this is to make sure that:

- you set out your new disability priorities for the next 3 years, taking into account all the information you have gathered and any relevant changes to your business
- you have a new action plan to deliver these priorities over the next 3 years, and
- Your DES is kept up to date and relevant to your business.


For most public authorities in England, Wales and Scotland, this is the first review of DESs. Many public authorities will be looking to publish a revised scheme based on the timelines below.

- England, Wales and Scotland: for those published on 04/12/06, the deadline is 04/12/09
- England: for primary schools, community and foundation special schools and LAs, with respect to PRUs they establish and maintain, that published their DES on 03/12/07, the deadline is 03/12/10
- Wales: for primary and secondary schools in Wales that published their DES on 01/04/07, the deadline is 01/04/10

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/PSD/des_general_guidance.doc

Special Educational Needs in England: January 2008 (August 2009)

These figures update and supplement provisional information published on 29 April in SFR09/2008.

Information is mainly drawn from the School Census and the SEN2 survey. The SFR provides information on the incidence and placement of pupils with SEN together 

with analyses on the characteristics of pupils by their stage of SEN. Key points from the latest release are:

- In January 2008 some 223,600 (2.8%) pupils across all schools in England had statements of SEN, a slight fall when compared to last year
- 56.6% of pupils with statements of SEN were placed in mainstream schools (nursery, primary, secondary) was 56.6%; 36.9% in maintained special schools; 3.6% in independent schools
- There were 1,390,700 pupils with SEN without statements representing 17.2% of pupils across all schools, an increase from 16.4% a year earlier. Contrary to the pattern for pupils with statements of SEN, the incidence of pupils with SEN without statements is greater in primary schools (18.1%) than in secondary schools (17.8%).

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000794/index.shtml>

Pupil Absence in Spring 2009 (26/08/09)

This release reports absence during the spring 2009 term in maintained primary, secondary schools, city technology colleges and academies in England. It is based on pupil level absence data collected via the summer 2009 School Census. This release provides local level information on the rates of absence (authorised, unauthorised and overall) by type of school and the proportion of absence by reason.

This is not a National Statistics publication. The statistics are presented as emerging findings and released to help planning, study trends and monitor outcomes of initiatives and interventions on pupil attendance.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000871/index.shtml>

Deployment and Impact of Support Staff in Schools: The impact of support staff in schools - (Results from Strand 2, Wave 2) (27/08/09)

This project was designed to obtain reliable data on the deployment and characteristics of support staff and the impact of support staff on pupil outcomes and teacher workloads over a 5 year period (2003-08).

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15827&type=5&resultspage=1>

Deployment and Impact of Support Staff in Schools: Characteristics, Working Conditions and Job Satisfaction of Support Staff in Schools (Strand 1, Waves 1-3 in 2004, 2006 and 2008) (27/08/09)

This research sought to provide an accurate, systematic and representative description of the types of support staff in school, and their characteristics and deployment in schools, and how these change over time.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15831&type=5&resultspage=11>

Aspects of School Workforce Remodelling; Strategies used and Impact on Workload and Standards (27/08/09)

This research explored the different strategies used by schools to implement the specific aspects of the National Agreement (Raising Standards and Tackling Workload) and the impact of these changes on standards and workload.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15187&type=5&resultspage=1>

Parent Support Advisor Pilot Evaluation: Final report (27/08/09)

The evaluation of the parent support advisor (PSA) pilot examined the effectiveness, impact and cost effectiveness of implementing PSAs to work with parents in order to help improve pupil outcomes. The pilot was over 2 years and ran from September 2006 to August 2008.

The final report focuses on evidence collected during the final phase of the evaluation (but also draws upon the earlier reports in 2007 and 2008) and comprised in depth interviews with LA strategic leads, PSA Co-ordinators and parents. A survey of all the schools involved was undertaken together with analysis of data on all parents supported by PSAs and an assessment of the impact of the advisors on children's outcomes at Key Stage 2.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=14961&type=5&resultspage=1>

Customer Perception Tracking Research Young People and Parents Surveys: Final reports - Waves 1 to 3 (27/08/09)

The purpose of this research was to monitor perceptions of the overall quality of state education provision at all stages from early years provision through to Higher Education; to measure attitudes towards issues such as children's safety and wellbeing in and out of school and children and young people's role in the community; and to understand the overall perception of England as a place to grow up.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15830&type=5&resultspage=1>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15829&type=5&resultspage=1>

Customer Voice Research: Aspirations and the children and young people segmentation (27/08/09)

This research explored, by segment, the aspirations of young people and how they are developed, influenced, shared and communicated

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15693&type=5&resultspage=11>

Working Together in Extended Schools and Children's Centres: A study of inter-professional activity in England and Sweden (27/08/09)

The study aimed to explore the facilitators and obstacles to working together in Extended Schools and Children's Centres in England and Sweden. In particular, the study investigated inter-professional relationships and interactions in selected sites and considered how such working might be improved.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15832&type=5&resultspage=11>

Looked After and Learning: Evaluation of the virtual school head pilot (27/08/09)

To identify and understanding the impact of the role of the virtual school head in 11 pilot local authorities in improving the educational achievement of looked after children and detailing which aspects make a difference in terms of how Looked After Children and others access services which support this.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectId=15448&type=5&resultspage=1>

Councils told to reveal statistics on at risk children (27/08/09)

The ICO has ordered 2 councils to reveal statistical information relating to children. The councils are required to provide statistics for the numbers of children who were taken into care, adopted and those placed on a special guardianship or residency order. A request was made to councils across England for the same statistical information on children.

The ICO successfully intervened helping to ensure the requested material was released by 3 councils but Coventry CC and Ealing Council refused to release the information, despite advice from the ICO. They maintained that the material was personal data. In addition, Coventry CC also maintained that the information had been provided to it in confidence. The ICO has now served formal Decision Notices on instructing them to release the material.

David Smith, the Deputy Information Commissioner, said: "These are common sense rulings. They highlight the fact that public authorities cannot refuse to release properly anonymised statistical information just because the statistics come from personal information. The test of anonymity is whether any member of the public could link the statistical information to an identifiable individual. Provided they cannot reasonably be expected to do so, the statistical information should be released." [http://www.ico.gov.uk/
http://www.ico.gov.uk/upload/documents/prsreleases/2009/coventry_and_ealing_270809.pdf](http://www.ico.gov.uk/http://www.ico.gov.uk/upload/documents/prsreleases/2009/coventry_and_ealing_270809.pdf)

Ofsted updated forms and guidance

(26/08/09 – 01/09/09)

- [Paying fees](#)
- [Pre-registration briefing for those wishing to become childminders](#)
- [Are you ready for your inspection? A guide to inspections of provision on Ofsted's Childcare and Early Years Registers](#)
- [Letter to parents for maintained school inspections from September 2009](#)
- [School inspections: a guide for parents and carers for inspection from September 2009](#)
- [Pre-inspection briefing for school inspections from September 2009](#)
- [Report template for inspections of all-through, primary, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units](#)
- [Report template for inspections of nursery schools](#)
- [Report writing guidance for school inspections: autumn 2009](#)
- [Evidence form for school inspections from September 2009](#)
- [Evidence forms - guidance on use for school inspections from September 2009](#)
- [Form 1 - confirmation that a school is causing concern or is no longer causing concern](#)
- [Tackling the new SEF](#)
- [Guidance for schools on the distribution of pupil questionnaires](#)
- [Inspection questionnaire for boarding pupils](#)
- [Inspection questionnaire for pupils in Key Stage 2](#)
- [Inspection questionnaire for pupils in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4](#)
- [Inspection questionnaire for school staff](#)
- [Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted](#)
- [Factsheet: childcare - Prompt points for inspections of those on the Early Years and Childcare Registers](#)



- [General guidance for inspectors on s162A independent school inspection procedures, timelines and tariffs](#)
- [Criteria for making judgements about the quality of provision \(independent schools\)](#)
- [Guidance for inspectors on making additional visits to independent schools](#)
- [Guidance for inspectors on writing the report \(independent schools\)](#)
- [Guidance for the completion of the record of inspection evidence and judgements \(ROIEJ\) \(independent schools\)](#)
- [Guidance on gathering evidence for Every Child Matters outcomes \(independent schools\)](#)
- [Guidance on types of independent schools](#)
- [Quality assurance record of s162A and other independent school reports](#)

[http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/\(sort\)/date](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/(sort)/date)

Drug Strategy Newsletter (August 2009)

This monthly newsletter produced by the Home Office Drug Strategy Unit contains up-to-date news and developments about the drug strategy. It also has details of events, guidance and publications.

<http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/publication-search/communications-campaigns/drugstrategynewsletter/august-2009?view=Binary>

<http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/publication-search/communications-campaigns/drugstrategynewsletter/?view=Standard&pubID=612949>

Consultations

The framework for responsible officers and their duties relating to the medical profession: a consultation on responsible officer regulations and guidance (25/08/09)

The DH is consulting on draft regulations and guidance relating to the roles and responsibilities of responsible officers. The draft regulations set out the legal framework for introducing responsible officers. The guidance expands on the regulations and describes the role that responsible officers will play in supporting organisations and doctors, as they strive to improve quality of care.

The consultation follows an earlier consultation on the roles and responsibilities of responsible officers published in July 2008 (the summary of responses to that consultation was published in May 2009).

The role of responsible officers, in England, is integral to improving the quality of care and ensuring a focus on the 3 core components of quality described in *High quality care for all* ¹:

- Patient Safety – by ensuring that doctors are maintaining, and raising further, professional standards.
- Effectiveness of care – by supporting professional instincts to improve further the effectiveness of clinical care.
- Patient experience – by ensuring that patients' views are integral to evaluations of a doctor's fitness to practise.

Closing Date 25th October 2009
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_104587

Consultation on a Review of Parental Order Regulations (01/09/09)

A Parental Order transfers parenthood from the surrogate (and her husband or partner if she has one) to the couple who commission the surrogacy arrangement.

Parental Orders are currently available to married couples only.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 enables same sex couples and unmarried couples as well as married couples to apply for a Parental Order.

Regulations are necessary to set out the processes for the court to grant Parental Orders.

This consultation is on the Draft Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Parental Orders) Regulations. They replace the Parental Orders (Human Fertilisation and Embryology) Regulations 1994 and the Parental Orders (Human Fertilisation and Embryology) (Scotland) Regulations 1994. They will bring the processes for granting Parental Orders more closely into line with updated adoption legislation.

Closing Date 23rd November 2009
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_104791

Conferences

Working together to safeguard children living with domestic violence

23rd September 2009 London £150

A one-day conference to launch a landmark research report - Children and families experiencing domestic violence: police and children's services' responses

The research, conducted by Nicky Stanley and colleagues at the University of Central Lancashire, is the first in-depth UK study of police notifications of domestic violence incidents involving children to children's social work services.

The research has captured children's and families' experiences and expectations of interventions as well as studying professional practice and systems for responding to domestic violence in families.

The conference focuses on developing effective interagency collaboration to safeguard children and their families experiencing domestic violence.

International and UK research findings in this area will be presented together with practice-based accounts from a range of professionals working to safeguard children and families.

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/CPCConferences/domestic_violence_2009_wda66911.html

Community Care Live Children and Families

18th November 2009 Business Design Centre, London

More details will follow shortly

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Events/2009/11/18/5469/cc-live-children-families.html>

Safeguarding children and interagency working: How can the processes and tools for early intervention reduce the likelihood of child misery?

2nd October 2009 London

£150 - £250 + VAT

The recent Protection of Children in England: Progress Report by Lord Laming explained how Inter-agency working is increasingly becoming the norm and most staff across a range of children's services is committed to it. But as he asserted, acceptance for shared responsibility for safeguarding needs to be more widespread.

In the wake of Lord Laming's review of safeguarding the importance of integrated working is reaffirmed but better early intervention is vital in reducing the likelihood of child misery and ensuring children's wellbeing.

This seminar, due to popular demand and also highly rated from the seminar previously run in July, will provide a timely opportunity to examine the principles of the processes and tools that underpin good interagency working and enable us to better deliver prevention.

<https://member.lgiu.org.uk/events/Pages/021009.aspx>

Strategies to better safeguard children in highly diverse communities

8th September 2009 London

The London Safeguarding Children Board is hosting a series of sessions focussing on safeguarding children across culture and faith in partnership with the Victoria Climbié Foundation. The 3rd of these sessions is now open for bookings.

<http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/>

Conferences (continued)

Home Office / ISA roadshows for faith communities

The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service is hosting a number of Home Office / ISA presentations for places of worship and other faith communities outlining the new Vetting and Barring Scheme. Each presentation will be between 2.30 and 4.30 pm as follows:

3 rd October 2009	Whitstable Kent
10 th October 2009	Bracknell, Berks
13 th October 2009	St Paul's Cathedral
24 th October 2009	Towcester Northants
17 th November 2009	St Paul's Cathedral
21 st November 2009	Gt Barton, Suffolk
28 th November 2009	Poole, Dorset
5 th December 2009	St Paul's Cathedral
12 th December 2009	St Paul's Cathedral
27 th February 2010	Ashingdon Essex
13 th March 2010	Swanley Kent
24 th April 2010	Bradford, W Yorks

Apart from the ones in St Paul's Cathedral, the presentations follow the CCPAS 'Facing the Unthinkable' safeguarding awareness seminars which will run from 9.30 am – 1.30 pm.

The charge for the ISA Roadshow is £6.

If you want to attend the ISA Roadshow and the 'Facing the Unthinkable' seminar on the same day, the cost will be £24.00 (saving £1.50)

<http://www.ccpas.co.uk/TrainingISA.html>

Young Children's Voices Network Conference

Early Years: Are We Listening?

5th November 2009 London
£123.63 - £160

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted on 20/11/89. The Childcare Act came into law in England in 2006, and included specific duties for LAs to have regard to the views of young children and their parents. Legislation is in place to protect and ensure the rights and entitlements of young children and for services to listen to the voice of our youngest citizens – But, to what extent are we listening? And how much is what we learn from children informing service design, planning and delivery?

This conference will:

- examine where we are today regarding listening to children and responding to the voice of the child in practice and policy
- explore the challenges involved
- discuss ways in which children's rights, specifically the right to be listened to, can be kept central to all decisions that affect them
- discuss the role of legislation and whether more is needed

http://www.ncb.org.uk/resources/conferences_and_events.aspx

<http://ycvn.eventbrite.com/>

Conferences (continued)

Children and the role of technology in sexualisation, addiction and bullying: a practical guide to protecting young people

25th November 2009 CEOP Centre, London

This conference aims to shed a light into the world of young people and technology, the risks they face and how the child protection community can mitigate those risks and help young people to enjoy the virtual worlds safely.

Delegates will:

- gain an understanding of current trends associated to the online gaming world;
- get an insight into how, physiologically this type of technology is affecting young people;
- understand the implications this can have on a young person's behaviour and development;
- learn practical steps in how to protect the young people in your care; and
- explore improvements to work flows within your organisation and discuss with peers.

The course is most suitable for professionals who work directly with children and young people, as well as those responsible for policies and procedures. Developers of new online technologies and those who work within the online industry and have a role in child protection may also find this conference of relevance.

E-mail: education@ceop.gov.uk

<http://www.ceop.police.uk/training>

16th national symposium on inter-agency training: Repositioning child protection: learning from good practice

1st - 2nd December 2009 NSPCC

National Training Centre, Leicester

Residential: £395 Non-residential: £335

Aims and objectives:

- empower inter-agency trainers to address the national child protection agenda and share effective practice
- provide an opportunity for people to reflect critically on the debate on child protection
- help delegates share and learn from examples of good inter-agency training practice
- reinvigorate inter-agency trainers' confidence and enhance their skills and knowledge

This symposium will provide:

- updates on research, policy and practice developments in the field
- keynote presentations that stimulate thinking and strengthen practice within inter-agency training
- workshops that explore core and innovative subjects in safeguarding training
- opportunities to network and share resources with others involved in inter-agency training and development

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/newsandevents/CPCConferences/PIATSymposium_wda50415.html

This weekly newsletter collates information from various sources that is relevant to safeguarding children. Anyone working in this area who would like to be added to the circulation list can forward their details to – keithdriver@btinternet.com