

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION UPDATE - 195
30th August 2011**

New media, new problem? (17/08/11)

This report by Alcohol Concern looks at how children and young people are at risk of being exposed to alcohol marketing and pro-drinking messages via the internet.

The report reveals the growing importance to alcohol companies of social networking sites (SNSs) like Facebook and video sharing sites such as YouTube as a means of promoting their products, and the inadequacies of online age verification pages aimed at preventing under 18s from accessing content intended for adults.

It also highlights the frequent practice of users of SNSs posting pictures and descriptions of themselves drinking and being drunk, and asks why so many of us choose to publicise our alcohol consumption in this way.

<http://www.alcoholconcern.org.uk/news-centre/press-releases/drinks-industry-and-social-networking>

<http://www.alcoholconcern.org.uk/assets/files/Publications/Wales%20publications/New-media,-new-problem.pdf>

Minority of parents alive to signs of child sexual exploitation (23/08/11)

Barnardo's is launching a major awareness drive to help parents, professionals and young people spot the signs of child sexual exploitation.

Barnardo's worked with more than 1,000 victims of this crime last year, but believes this figure is just the tip of the iceberg, with many victims failing to get the support they need as telltale signs are missed. ↗

Signs include a child:

- going missing for long periods of time
- regularly returning home late
- appearing with unexpected gifts or new possessions
- behaving in an inappropriately sexual way
- associating with older teenagers or adults.

In figures revealed today, the charity found that of parents surveyed:

- Only 38% believe that children are being sexually exploited where they live, despite this being an issue in towns and cities across the UK.
- 43% are able to spot signs such as regularly returning home late
- 41% are able to spot signs such as associating with older teenagers and adults
- mums are more likely than dads to consider all the signs of sexual exploitation as risky. 25% of dads do not feel confident that they would spot whether the relationships their child has are dangerous, compared to 17% of mums.

http://www.barnardos.org.uk/news_and_events/media_centre/press_releases.htm?ref=71573

'Guidance for best practice for the management of intimate images that may become evidence in court'

This document has recently been updated by The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Association of Chief Police Officers and Faculty of Forensic Medicine.

<http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/csa>

<http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/sites/default/files/GuidanceonIntimateImages30JUNE2010.pdf>

**The Physical Signs of Child Sexual Abuse
An evidence-based review and guidance
for best practice (24/08/11)**

This handbook is a revision of the 1997 Royal College of Physicians publication 'Physical Signs of Sexual Abuse in Children'. Based on the best available evidence, it has been produced by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health in collaboration with the Royal College of Physicians of London and its Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine.

<http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/csa>

<http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/news/rcpch-publication-%E2%80%98physical-signs-child-sexual-abuse%E2%80%99-2008-updated>

**Health Visitor return to practice
framework - A guide for education
providers (26/08/11)**

In February 2011, the Government made a firm commitment to increase the health visitor workforce by 4,200 by 2015. This will be implemented through the Health Visiting Implementation Programme, which aims to deliver a new service vision for improving the health and well-being of children, families and communities.

The focus of this framework is on return to practice and has been produced to provide information for those considering a return to the HV service, and for consideration by HE Institutions delivering RtP programmes.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2011/08/rtp-framework/>

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_129697

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_129700.pdf

**Educating health visitors for a
transformed service (25/08/11)**

This new guidance for education commissioners, HE institutions and lecturers sets out the approach on aligning education with regard to provision of a transformed health visiting service. Also, it sets out a more detailed rationale and suggestions for aligning the 'new service vision' and meeting family expectations.

The document is intended to provide a framework of topics which will support future practitioners in order to fulfil the needs of the service.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2011/08/educating-health-visitors/>

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_129682

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_129695.pdf

**Review of food safety in the home
(22/08/11)**

The FSA has published a review of existing studies that explore how people manage food safety in their homes and what implications these behaviours could have on their health.

The report found that, although they are often aware of good food hygiene practices, many people are failing to chill foods properly, aren't following advice on food labels and aren't sticking to simple hygiene practices that would help them avoid spreading harmful bacteria around their kitchens.

<http://www.food.gov.uk/news/newsarchive/2011/aug/homehygiene>

http://www.foodbase.org.uk//admintools/reportdocuments/700-1-1185_X04009_FINAL.pdf

Consultation on Care To Learn (26/08/11)

The DfE has launched a consultation on changes to how Care to Learn will continue to support teenage parents in education and unpaid training in England. Currently parents under 20 who meet the scheme requirements can claim up to £160 a week (£175 a week in London) for childcare and related transport costs under the programme.

The scheme will continue in its current form for all parents in England under 20 when they start a course in 2011/12 until they complete that course. Any change would be introduced from September 2012.

The amount of money available for Care to Learn will rise across the Spending Review period, from £38.6 million in 2011-12 to £44.7 million in 2014-15. However, while the number of teenage parents is declining, more are likely to remain in education or training as the participation age is raised, to 17 in 2013 and to 18 in 2015.

The consultation outlines 4 possible options:

- Moving to a discretionary fund
- Linking support to income
- Changing the weekly rates paid
- Changing the age criteria. This is the DfE's preferred option. It would mean that those 18 and under at the start of their course would still be covered by the scheme. Those 19 and over would be able to apply for childcare support through the discretionary adult learner support arrangements funded by the BIS. This option would bring eligibility for childcare support in line with other forms of financial support for young people and adults.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/inthenews/a00197539/consultation-on-care-to-learn-launched>

Home Secretary chairs gangs meeting (15/08/11)

The Home Secretary hosted a meeting of cabinet ministers and senior police officers to discuss the government response to gang violence. Speaking after the meeting, Theresa May said:

'Communities across the country have had to live with the problem of gang violence for too long. I have today chaired a meeting attended by Cabinet colleagues and senior police officers about our work to combat gangs.

'We have agreed to urgently assess the extent of the gang problem in UK, look at what works in tackling gangs, and how we can spread best practice. There is good work already underway in some parts of the UK. We need to learn from this.'

She added that 'there are no quick fixes' to this problem, but that the government is committed to dealing with it.

'We must approach this from every angle,' she said, 'be it in our schools, in our communities and considering what it means for jobs and benefits. I will be reporting back to the Prime Minister and Parliament in October. We are all clear this is a problem we must deal with.'

In a speech to Parliament last week, the Home Secretary explained that tougher action will be taken to tackle gang culture in the UK.

- Gang injunctions, a police power which sees tough sanctions being imposed on individuals, will be introduced for people who are under 18 (This power already applies to adult gang members)

Mrs May told MPs that 6% of young people are thought to be involved in such criminal behaviour.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/gangs-targeted>

Changes in the reporting of Child Death Reviews in England for y/e 31/03/09

Child Death Reviews completed in y/e 31/03/09 and 10 were published under the title of "Preventable Child Deaths in England". Data for y/e 31/03/11 will be published under "Child Death Reviews Completed in England" in July 2011.

Child Death Overview Panels are responsible for reviewing deaths of all children 0-18, and from 01/04/10 they were no longer required to assess if each death was preventable. The title has been revised to reflect this change.

Data collected from CDOPs includes for the first time the proportion of deaths which were assessed as having modifiable factors which may have contributed to the death. Additional information about characteristics will also be published (e.g. age, gender and cause of death). Information about the characteristics was optional when data was collected for y/e 31/03/10.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/announcements/a00196955/df-e-changes-in-the-reporting-of-child-death-reviews-in-england-for-the-year-ending-31-march-2011>

Unexplained deaths in infancy: England and Wales, 2009 (16/08/11)

This bulletin looks at unexplained infant deaths which are one aspect of infant mortality. Reporting the findings helps understanding of some of the risk factors.

There were 279 UIDs in 09 (0.40 per 1,000 live births). While the overall rate has decreased by 20% from 05, they still account for almost 9% of all infant deaths. Risk factors include sex, low birthweight, mother's aged under 20, sole registered births and having a father whose occupation is classified as routine and manual. ↗

The FSID has called for parents of low-birth weight babies to be given more advice on how to reduce the risk of cot death, as this latest research shows they are at higher risk.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/uinfmort0811.pdf>

<http://fsid.org.uk/page.aspx?pid=946>

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/default.asp>

Breastfeeding and Smoking – Quarter ending June 2011 (18/08/11)

Key points from this latest release are:

- Breastfeeding initiation rate was 74.3 in 2011/12 Quarter 1, a slight improvement on 10/11 outturn (73.7%), 09/10 (72.7%) and 08/09 (71.7%).
- Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks in 2011/12 Quarter 1 was 45.6% of all infants due a 6-8 weeks check, largely unchanged from the 45.4% recorded in 10/11 Q1.
- Percentage of mothers smoking at delivery in England was 13.2% in 2011/12 Quarter 1, lower than 10/11 outturn (13.5%), 09/10 (14.1%) and 08/09 (14.4%).

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Statistics/StatisticalWorkAreas/Statisticalpublichealth>

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=420843&NewsAreaID=2&HUserID=895,779,891,848,780,867,710,705,765,674,677,767,684,762,718,674,708,683,706,718,674&ClientID=-1>

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Statistics/StatisticalWorkAreas/Statisticalpublichealth/DH_124185

1 IN 3 children have never experienced a traditional family day out (20/08/11)

The findings of a national survey of children provide a stark reminder that children are not immune to financial pressures experienced by their parents during tough economic times. The survey highlights the high number of children in Britain whose families are not able to afford traditional 'days out'.

Findings from the Shout Out 4Children Survey 2009 reveal:

- 34% of children have never been abroad
- 37% have never been to the theatre
- 38% have never been to a theme park
- 10% have not been on any kind of 'family outing' in the past 12 months.

<http://www.4children.org.uk/information/shoutout/ref/1720>

Towards a more ordinary life... A report on the progress of parent carer participation and the development of short breaks (26/08/11)

The number of disabled children receiving short breaks more than doubled between April 2008 and March 2011, with increases in every area of the country. The findings are published in this report by Together for Disabled Children (TDC), commissioned by the Government.

Short breaks give disabled children and their families the chance of a normal life and opportunities that other children can take for granted such as playing with their friends, learning new hobbies or going on holiday. Short breaks also give parents a well needed rest from their caring responsibilities and a chance to recharge.

The Govt has now made it statutory for LAs to provide short breaks, as of April 2011. The new regulations require LAs to publish information to parents describing what short breaks services are on offer in their area. ↗

The Government has committed over £800m for LAs to invest in short breaks between April 2011 and March 2015 through the Early Intervention Grant. This compares with £270 million which was made available between 2008 and 2011.

The number of disabled children receiving short breaks rose from 57,383 in 2008-09 to 162,831 in 2010-11 – an increase of over 105,000 children. This has contributed to a decrease in social care interventions and a fall in the number of disabled children entering the looked after system.

The TDC report also analysed the success of parent forums across the country between 2008 and 2011. Over 1,700 parents of disabled children are now actively involved in planning services in their area through parent forums – over three times more than in 2008.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/inthenews/a00197538/more-than-160000-disabled-children-now-enjoy-short-breaks>
<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/t/towards%20a%20more%20ordinary%20life%20summary%20report.pdf>

DfE: NEET Statistics - Quarterly Brief - Quarter 2 2011 (24/08/11)

This brief sets out the latest statistics available on young people who are NEET (not in education, employment or training) in England from the DfE 16 - 18 Participation SFR, the Labour Force Survey, and regional NEET figures.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/recentreleases/a00196851/dfe-need-statistics-quarterly-brief-quarter-2-20>

DfE: Statistical First Release - Pupil Absence in Schools in England, Spring Term 2011 (24/08/11)

This release reports absence in maintained primary, secondary schools, city technology colleges and academies in England. It is based on pupil level absence data collected via the summer 2011 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. <http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/recentreleases/a00196852/pupil-absence>

Statement on school absence statistics for Spring term 2011 (24/08/11)

Schools Minister Nick Gibb said:
Despite the welcome fall, absenteeism is still too high. We know that children who are absent for substantial parts of their education fall behind their peers and struggle to catch up. That is why we have changed the threshold on persistent absence* to encourage schools to crackdown on those pupils who are persistently skipping school. Over the coming months we will be giving stronger powers to schools to send a clear message to pupils and parents that persistent absence is unacceptable.
We are also committed to addressing the factors that can lead to children playing truant. Often it can be down to poor literacy skills. That is why we are focusing on improving reading in the early years of primary school with synthetic phonics.

*Previously a child was deemed as 'persistent absent' if they missed over 6 weeks a year (32 school days). This has now been changed to just over 4 weeks (23 school days). <http://www.education.gov.uk/a00197330/statement-on-school-absence-statistics-for-spring-term-2011>

Myplace evaluation – report (Aug 2011)
Myplace arose from Aiming High for young people: a 10 year strategy for positive activities. It aims to establish 'world-class' places for young people, offering positive activities and access to a range of services.

The evaluation aims to identify:

- the extent to which projects are adopting leading practice;
- the impact of adopting leading practice; and
- the extent of progress towards the myplace outcomes.

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/R/SG/AllPublications/Page1/MYPLACE-FIN-REP>

[https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/Download?DownloadPublicationReference=MYPLACE-FIN-REP&DownloadItemReference=Myplace%20Evaluation%20-%20final%20report%20PDF\(DfES%20Online%20Store\)&DocumentType=PDF&Url=%2Fpublications%2FeOrderingDownload%2Fmyplace%20Evaluation%20-%20Final%20report.pdf](https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/Download?DownloadPublicationReference=MYPLACE-FIN-REP&DownloadItemReference=Myplace%20Evaluation%20-%20final%20report%20PDF(DfES%20Online%20Store)&DocumentType=PDF&Url=%2Fpublications%2FeOrderingDownload%2Fmyplace%20Evaluation%20-%20Final%20report.pdf)

Make Runaways Safe campaign website is live (22/08/11)

The Children's Society has a new website to accompany its Make Runaways Safe campaign and report. The report revealed that children as young as 8 are running away from home or care and in most cases are not being reported to the authorities.

The website helps people to get involved with the campaign by signing a petition, joining in with social media and reading information about the campaign.

<http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/news-views/press-release/our-make-runaways-safe-campaign-website-live>
<http://www.makerunawayssafe.org.uk/>

Updated DfES guidance (23/08/11)

Guide for heads and school staff on behaviour and discipline

A guide for headteachers and school staff on developing a school behaviour policy and the powers members of staff have to discipline pupils.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/behaviourpolicies/f0076803/behaviour-and-discipline-in-schools-a-guide-for-headteachers-and-school-staff>

Guidance for governing bodies on behaviour and discipline

This statutory guidance explains why maintained schools must have a behaviour policy, what it must cover and the role of the governing body and headteachers in shaping their school's behaviour policy.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/behaviourpolicies/g0076647/behaviour-and-discipline-in-schools-guidance-for-governing-bodies>

Use of reasonable force

This is non-statutory advice to clarify the use of force in schools for governing bodies, headteachers and school staff.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/behaviourpolicies/f0077153/use-of-reasonable-force-advice-for-school-leaders-staff-and-governing-bodies>

Screening, searching and confiscation

Advice on schools' powers to screen and search pupils.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/f0076897/screening-searching-and-confiscation>

Getting value for money from the education of 16- to 18- year olds (16/08/11)

There has been an overall improvement in the achievements of 16-18 year olds over the last 4 years. Students in larger providers have generally achieved better results. Smaller providers, by collaborating, can achieve some of the benefits of size, including economies of scale and improvements to quality and choice. However, the competitive market in which providers of education operate can be a barrier to collaboration and aspects of inspection and assessment are not aligned with collaborative delivery.

In a market, consistently poor providers should fail because they lose funding as students choose to study elsewhere. For the 16-18 education market to work effectively, there needs to be consistent and relevant information so the DfE can assess value for money and students can make informed judgements about courses and what they lead to. Also, where a provider's performance is poor, there must be clarity about the criteria for intervention, and the timing and extent of intervention. Neither is fully in place at present, leading to negative consequences for students and limiting speed and effectiveness of actions to deal with poor performance.

While participation of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training has increased, further increases are required to reach the legislative requirement of full participation by 2015.

The DfE must assess the impact of recent changes to policy, such as its replacement of the EMA, on its plans to have everyone up to age 18 in education or training by 2015.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/public-accounts-committee/news/16-18-education/>
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/201012/cmselect/cmpublic/1116/111602.htm>

Progression post-16 for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities

(23/08/11)

This report found that learning opportunities beyond school for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities varies considerably. Insufficient provision and the current placement system resulted in significant inequities for learners with similar needs.

Inspectors found that LA arrangements to provide learners with a learning difficulty assessment as a basis for transition to post-16 provision did not work effectively. Providers had received an assessment in only a third of case studies. These were not always timely or adequately completed, which made it difficult to plan support. Criteria used for placement decisions were not always clear, local options were not adequately explored and the recommendations were not always based on an objective assessment of need.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/news/progression-beyond-school-variable-for-young-people-learning-difficulties-and-disabilities-ofsted-0>
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/news/progression-beyond-school-variable-for-young-people-learning-difficulties-and-disabilities-ofsted>

Ofsted - New and Updated guidance and forms (11-23/08/11)

[Flawed inspections: Ofsted-related protocol](#)
[Progression post-16 for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities](#)
[Pupils' questionnaire \(independent schools\)](#)
[Evidence form for use on inspections of boarding and residential special schools](#)
[The indicative timetable](#)
[Residential special school national minimum standards check sheet and evidence form](#)
[Statistical notice: Ofsted revisions policy for official statistics](#)
[Registration inspections to academies \(independent schools\)](#)

[Boarding school national minimum standards check sheet and evidence form](#)

[Inspection of residential provision in schools](#)

[Advice note for an emergency inspection - welfare only \(independent schools\)](#)

[Advice note for a material change inspection of an independent school seeking to offer boarding or residential provision - welfare only](#)

[Advice note for a progress monitoring inspection - welfare only \(independent schools\)](#)

[Advice note for evaluating a school's action plan - welfare only \(independent schools\)](#)

[National minimum standards check sheet for new boarding provision in an independent school - welfare only](#)

[National minimum standards check sheet for new residential provision in a special school - welfare only](#)

[Types of independent schools](#)

[Conducting additional inspections of independent schools](#)

[Inspecting the Early Years Foundation Stage \(independent schools\)](#)

[Writing inspection reports \(independent schools\)](#)

[Children's centre inspections evidence forms](#)
[Gathering evidence for Every Child Matters outcomes \(independent schools\)](#)

[Conducting inspections of independent schools](#)

[Guidance for schools on inspections of non-association independent schools](#)

[The framework for inspecting education in non-association independent schools](#)

[Criteria for making judgements \(independent schools\)](#)

[Completing the record of inspection evidence and judgements \(independent schools\)](#)

[Report template for children's centre inspections](#)

[Conducting children's centres inspections](#)

Ofsted - New and Updated guidance and forms (11-23/08/11)

23/08/11

Flawed inspections: Ofsted-related protocol

Progression post-16 for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities

16/08/11

Pupils' questionnaire (independent schools)

15/08/11

Evidence form for use on inspections of boarding and residential special schools

The indicative timetable

Residential special school national minimum standards check sheet and evidence form

Statistical notice: Ofsted revisions policy for official statistics

Boarding school national minimum standards check sheet and evidence form

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Report template for children's centre inspections

11/08/11

Conducting children's centres inspections

New dates and cities for Engaging vulnerable young people: what works?

3rd November 2011

Derby

9th November 2011

Glasgow

16th November 2011

Leeds

23rd November 2011

London

£99 + VAT

The course, developed in response to recommendations from recent case reviews, is based on experiences of colleagues in Safe and Sound Derby and expert practitioners from around the UK. The learning aims are:

- Understand why vulnerable young people are often difficult to engage
- Confront some of the stereotyping that creates barriers to effective communication
- Explore why some young people are especially difficult to engage
- Be aware of good practice, and other helpful links and resources
- Identify ways to engage with hard to reach young people
- Plan how to transfer their learning into practice

<http://www.justwhistle.org.uk/events.php>

Taking Stock - A rapid review of the National Child Measurement Programme (11/08/11)

In spring 2011, the Thomas Coram Research Unit were commissioned by the DH to undertake an independent review of the NCMP. They were asked to take stock of the progress and challenges in the delivery of NCMP by drawing on existing research and evidence, and by engaging directly with local practitioners involved in the delivery of the NCMP. This report provides a summary of the approach and findings from the review.
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_129373
http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_129372.pdf

The National Review of Asthma Deaths (NRAD) (15/08/11)

For 12 months from 01/02/12, every death from asthma in the UK will be reviewed systematically and be subject to an in-depth multidisciplinary confidential enquiry. By engaging with health professionals and family members the project will explore the individual circumstances surrounding the death – e.g. medical care, environmental conditions, workplace and school.

It is not clear why deaths per year from asthma has not reduced significantly from around 1200 for many years, even though it is widely accepted that there are preventable factors in 90%. The aim of the project is to understand why people of all ages die from asthma so recommendations can be made to prevent deaths from asthma in the future.
<http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/resources/clinical-resources/national-review-of-asthma-deaths>
<http://www.saphna-professionals.org/node/739>

The Head Teacher's Report to Parents and Adult Pupils (Wales) Regulations 2011 – SI 1943 (W.210) (23/08/11)

These Regs make provision as to the report the head teacher is required to send to parents and adult pupils each school year and the additional information parents of registered pupils who are assessed in any key stage may request relating to the pupil's levels of achievements in relevant subjects.
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2011/1943/contents/made>

The School Governors' Annual Reports (Wales) Regulations 2011 – SI 1939 (W.207) (23/08/11)

These Regs set out—

- information to be contained in governors' reports under s30 Education Act 2002;
- requirements with respect to language(s) in which reports must be produced; and
- requirements with respect to providing parents with copies of such reports and making them available for inspection

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2011/1939/contents/made>

The Pupil Information (Wales) Regulations 2011 – SI 1942 (W.209) (23/08/11)

These Regs provide for the keeping by the head teacher of records about the curricular records of a pupil at a school maintained by a LA and a special school not so maintained.
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2011/1942/contents/made>

The School Performance and Absence Targets (Wales) Regulations 2011 – SI 1945 (W.212) (23/08/11)

These Regs repeal and re-enact with changes the Education (School Performance and Absence Targets) (Wales) Regulations 1999.
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2011/1945/contents/made>

Children on Family Justice (17/08/11)

This report gives the views and experiences of children in care about family courts, plus their views about other possible ways of reaching important decisions about children's lives. We asked children for their views on these issues to pass on to the governments' Family Justice Review Panel, which has been looking at how the family courts should work in the future.

Some of the major findings were:

Half the children considered that courts do not usually or always make the right decisions for children.

- But children did not tell us that any of the other possible ways of making major decisions about children's lives were in their view likely to be any better than the courts.
- The children saw children's services professionals as overall the best people to make most decisions for children.
- They wanted improvements to courts to make sure that decisions are never made by just one person.
- They wanted children to be able to be better able to have their say in court decisionmaking.
- They wanted major court decisions to be followed up after two years to check that they are still right for the child.

Going to court could make a child "scared and afraid of not knowing what was going on", and if a court makes the wrong decision, "a lot of bad things can happen from one decision".

<https://www.rights4me.org/reportView.cfm?id=486>

<https://www.rights4me.org/reportView.cfm?id=445>

Consultations

Independent Safeguarding Authority Draft Welsh Language Scheme (25/08/11)

The Independent Safeguarding Authority has published a draft Welsh language scheme under the Welsh Language Act 1993, setting out how it will provide services to the public through the medium of Welsh. That scheme is now out for public consultation.

Closing Date: 21st October 2011

<http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=438>

<http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/docs/ISA%20Welsh%20Language%20Scheme%202011%20Public%20Consultation%20Final2.doc>

<http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/docs/ISA%20Welsh%20Language%20Scheme%202011%20Public%20Consultation%20Final2W.doc>

Changes to the Care to Learn Childcare Support Scheme (26/08/11)

This consultation seeks the views of young parents, young people, parents, schools, colleges, work-based training providers and other stakeholders on options for the future of the Care to Learn childcare support scheme for young parents in education or training in England, from September 2012.

Closing Date: 28th October 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1767&external=no&menu=1>



Social Mobility and Child Poverty review - Call for evidence (16/08/11)

The Government has appointed Alan Milburn as Independent Reviewer of Social Mobility and Child Poverty, pending the establishment of a statutory Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission next year.

The Commission will be issuing its first report to Parliament in Spring. This Call for Evidence will help inform that report, alongside Alan Milburn's discussions with a broad range of stakeholders, including:

- employers
- universities
- government departments
- voluntary and community sector
- parents and young people.

The report will also take into account the evidence collected for:

- Alan Milburn's review Unleashing Aspiration: The Final Report of the Panel on Fair Access to the Professions
- Frank Field's review The Foundation Years: preventing poor children becoming poor adults
- Graham Allen's review of Early Intervention
- the Child Poverty Strategy Consultation.

The Call for Evidence explores questions around how child poverty and social mobility are linked, and the examples of how projects can be set up and expanded and progress measured on these issues.

Closing Date: 16th October 2011

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/social-mobility-and-child-poverty-review-call-evidence>

Conferences

Adolescence to Adulthood with Autism Making the transition from education to employment

22nd September 2011 London
£240 - £599 + VAT

The Government is committed to support young people with Autism Spectrum Conditions into work and away from benefit dependence. To make this a reality, it is vital that service providers, LAs, the education system and the private sector all work together to learn what works and how to ensure successful outcomes.


This event will highlight policy and strategy as set out in "Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives: Evaluating Progress" and look at research on how to support people with ASC through the education system and into work. Hear from senior representatives across sectors sharing good practice models to ensure successful transitions for young people into employment.

<http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/sh282/>

10 years of safeguarding children in sport - A milestone to celebrate

6th October 2011 Birmingham £75 – £200

This conference marks the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit's 10th anniversary of working in partnership with sport organisations to safeguard children. The conference will give you the opportunity to:

- discuss key safeguarding achievements in the sport sector, and the future direction of policy and practice
 - consider the impact of the CPSU's safeguarding standards
 - hear directly from some survivors of child abuse
 - reflect on the needs of deaf and disabled children
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- gain a clearer understanding of how multi-agency communication supports safeguarding.

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/inform/newsandevents/cpconferences/cpsu-ten_wda82922.html

An evidence-based approach to supporting foster carers

11th October 2011 London
£199 - £399 + VAT

As a result of funding cuts and an increase to eligibility thresholds for care, children and young people of all ages are entering foster care with increasingly complex needs.

Attend this conference to:

- Clarify the meaning of delegated authority in the Foster Carers' Charter: Where should flexibility end or become inappropriate?
- Discover how to manage high-risk behaviours in children aged 3-17: Evidence-based approaches to support both the foster child and foster carers
- Learn how to restructure corporate parenting and promote joined-up working
- Gain insight into how to support foster carers who receive allegations of abuse
- Hear practical strategies to manage 'compassion fatigue' in foster carers and the wider looked-after children workforce
- Learn how to effectively gather and share information for best practice assessments, matching and placement purposes
- Plus training streams to fill the knowledge gaps on child protection issues (for adults' and drug treatment agency staff) and understanding substance misuse and addiction (for children's professionals)

<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/events/show/537>

<http://www.communitycareconferences.co.uk/fostercarers>

Conferences (continued)

Media Explosion - Dealing with complex sex and relationship education messages

9th November Birmingham
£130 (vol orgs £110) before 15/09/11
£150 (vol orgs £125) after 15/09/11

This conference looks at:

- the role media has had on our perceptions of sex and relationships
- how we can help children and young people make sense of what is around them
- at relationships between faith, communities and SRE and the role of the media in this.

Breakout sessions include on-line sexual exploitation, protective behaviours, working with parents, eating disorders, cyber-bullying
http://www.bgfl.org/bgfl/71.cfm?s=71&m=3315&p=2268,view_home_page_item&id=1990

Community Care Children & Families Live

16th November 2011 London Free
An opportunity for those working with children and families to celebrate social care and its work –

Attendees will benefit from:

- Debates and workshops exploring key topics
- Advice Clinic on rights and responsibilities
- Over 80 exhibitors to make new contacts with providers and consider training and career opportunities
- Insight in how to strike a health balance at the Wellbeing Clinic

http://www.childrenandfamilieslive.co.uk/?cp=EMC-SCEVT_CFLIVE6_20110815

Whole family support for drug and alcohol misusing parents

15th September 2011 London
£199 - £399 + VAT

Attend this conference to:

- Learn effective approaches to achieve joint and multi-agency working to provide whole family support and recovery for drug and alcohol misusing parents and to safeguard children and young people
- Be more confident to engage resistant parents in CP issues to improve outcomes
- Benefit from approaches to tackle the stigma and stereotyping felt by substance misusing parents
- Engage mental health services in service user recovery
- Learn from service users and how to involve them in service developments and delivery

http://www.communitycareconferences.co.uk/misusingparents2011?cp=EMC-SCCON_COMP4_20110610

Annual Youth Justice Convention 2011

2nd – 3rd November 2011 Brighton
£205 - £525 + VAT

Speakers will address the current issues of governance, policy and practice. Seminars and workshops will provide opportunity to assess key issues facing youth justice.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/press-releases/yjb/yjbpressrelease230811.htm>
<http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/yjc11/>

This 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