

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
INFORMATION & NEWS UPDATE -151
3rd February 2010**

Family Information Directory (26/01/10)

The Family Information Directory will:

- include details of all childcare available to families across England
- show parents the range of providers, from nurseries to childminders and after-school clubs to children's centres, available in their area
- offer information on services and support available to parents, grandparents and other carers, at every stage in a child's life.

The Directory is part of the Family Information Direct programme, formerly Parent Know How, which incorporates independent advice from 18 organisations, charities and voluntary groups.

To receive support and advice through the programme, parents and carers can:

- ring a telephone helpline;
- go online for personalised advice;
- join a social network to get support from other parents in similar circumstances;
- watch online videos for handy tips; or
- read articles in newspapers and magazines.

The Directory will increasingly be available on LA websites and in other locations such as libraries and children's centres.

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2010_0023

<http://familyservices.direct.gov.uk>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/familyinformationdirect/index.shtml>

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01192-2009&>

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&>

Physical punishment in part-time educational and other learning settings (28/01/10)

The Chief Advisor on child safety has written to Ed Balls with his initial view on the issues surrounding the use of physical punishment in part-time educational and other learning settings. Sir Roger has been asked to conduct further examination to determine whether change is needed in order to strengthen safeguards for children, and submit his advice by the end of March 2010.

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2010_0025

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/pnattach/20100025/1.html>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/pnattach/20100025/2.html>

National Victims' Service (27/01/10)

Details of a new £8m National Victims' Service were announced today by Justice Secretary Jack Straw. The service is part of a stage of reforms aimed at ensuring the justice system is firmly on the side of the law-abiding citizen.

The Service will guarantee all victims of crime and antisocial behaviour, referred by the police, more comprehensive and dedicated support. The first phase begins in March and will help families bereaved by murder or manslaughter, providing intensive support, care and attention, tailored to their individual needs. This help will continue beyond the conclusion of any investigation or trial. From 01/04/10 the service will roll out to all victims of crime across England and Wales.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news/national-victims-service.html>

Tackling teen drinking (29/01/10)

New powers to tackle underage drinking, introduced through the Police and Crime Act 2009, come into effect today across England and Wales. These are:

- confiscating alcohol from young people – police no longer need to prove that the individual ‘intended’ to consume the alcohol
- making it easier to move on groups of young people- Police can:
 - issue ‘Directions to Leave’ to persons aged 10 - 15 as well as those 16 and over
 - take the young person home or to a place of safety if issued with Directions and reasonably suspect they are under 16
- greater power to tackle persistent underage drinkers – by introducing a new offence for under-18s of persistently possessing alcohol in a public place
- tackling those selling alcohol to children - by changing the offence of persistently selling alcohol to under 18s
- Also coming into effect today are tough new powers for local councillors to tackle problem premises. In addition to the police and members of the public, local councillors will now also be able to call for a review to restrict or remove an alcohol retailer’s licence.

<http://press.homeoffice.gov.uk/press-releases/powers-tackle-teen-drinking.html>

Persistently possessing alcohol in a public place (Jan 2010)

This guidance explains S30 Policing and Crime Act 2009 which makes it illegal for a person under 18 to be in possession of alcohol on 3 or more occasions within a period of 12 consecutive months.

This offence must be used with S29, which amends the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act 1997 and the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 to enable a

constable to confiscate alcohol from under 18s, and to ensure that s/he is required to give his or her name and address.

This guidance sets out the steps that should be taken to deter young people from drinking and possessing alcohol in public places, including engagement with the parents or guardians of the young person.

In addition to powers under the confiscation legislation (take those under 16 home or to a place of safety), the police should also be mindful of their duties under the Children Act 2004 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children which may include:

- referral for CAF assessment of need where a child or young person is seen as vulnerable and potentially in need
- taking children into protective custody where appropriate
- using Operation Staysafe to protect vulnerable children whose behaviour or whereabouts place them at risk of harm and street based teams to signpost young people to appropriate positive activities
- working with partner agencies to divert children away from crime and into positive activities where appropriate;
- working with partner agencies to educate C&YP on issues such as substance misuse and prevention of crime e.g. Safer Schools Partnership
- working with the YOT, particularly the prevention team, to ensure that a substance misuse issue is identified early and an appropriate referral is made.

<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/crimereduction054.htm>

<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/crimereduction054a.pdf>

Giving directions to individuals to leave a locality (Jan 2010)

This updated guidance reflects changes made by the Policing and Crime Act 2009. The power to give Directions are appropriate where their presence is likely to cause or contribute to the occurrence, repetition or continuance of alcohol-related crime or disorder in a locality and their removal is necessary for the purpose of removing or reducing the likelihood of there being such crime or disorder in the locality.

The police can now:

- issue Directions to persons aged 10 - 15 as well as those 16 and over
- take the young person home or to a place of safety if issued with Directions and they reasonably suspect that they are under 16

<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/crimereduction053.htm>

<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/crimereduction053a.pdf>

Revised Guidance issued under s182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Jan 2010)

This revised guidance takes account of new provisions under s33 Policing and Crime Act 2009 (commences 29/01/10) to enable councillors, in their capacity as elected members of the relevant licensing authority, to act as 'interested parties'.

http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/6604.aspx

http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/DCMS_LicensingGuidanceJan2010.pdf

Impartial Careers Education Statutory Guidance

This Resources Pack has been developed to help schools meet the challenges in the DCSF information, advice and guidance strategy and deliver the new legislative requirements.



The pack includes:

- briefing notes for Governors, careers co-ordinators and other staff to develop their understanding of their role in helping and supporting young people
- materials to help head teachers audit careers education provision and judge how it is meeting users' needs
- a DVD on the main post-16 options for use in careers education lessons and to help engage parents and carers

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00066-2010&>

Giving children a healthy start (03/02/10)

This report assesses the local implementation of national policy from 1999 to 2009 on the health of children from birth to 5 years of age in England. It examines local service planning and delivery, including priority setting, and how local bodies can improve service delivery and access for vulnerable groups such as black and minority ethnic (BME) communities, lone and teenage parents. The report discusses the impact of government funding on health outcomes for the under 5s; how effectively local bodies manage their resources; and the extent to which they are providing good value for money. It provides recommendations for national and local bodies, as well as examples of notable practice.

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nationalstudies/health/financialmanagement/Pages/GivingChildrenaHealthyStart.aspx>

http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Downloads/201002-Childrens_health_Summary_WEB.pdf

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Downloads/201002->

A picture worth millions: State of the Young People's Workforce Report (Jan 2010)

This report evaluates the current young people's workforce as at August 2008 and maps changes over the next 3 years. 3 annual reports will be produced.

Findings include:

- 6m estimated people working in 55 different occupations in 12 separate sectors, representing public sector, private sector, charity, community and faith organisations.
- Positions range from arts and dance workers in the cultural sector to education welfare officers, youth workers and learning mentors in the education sector to coaches and match officials in the sports and recreation sector.
- 87% give their time free (1 in 4 sports and recreation groups is run purely on a voluntary basis)
- 3.7m work in sports and recreation sector, 1.18m in outdoor pursuits and 600,000 in youth work
- 67% of sports and recreation volunteers are under 35 - 35% are aged 16-24

73% of youth and community officers are aged 44 or older.

<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/young-peoples-workforce/state-of-the-young-peoples-workforce-report>

http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/7827/Executive_summary_SYPW_report.pdf

http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/7828/SYPW_report_full_version.pdf

http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/news/3019_new-report-reveals-estimated-six-million-workers-supporting-the-country-s-young-people

Training for children's centre outreach practitioners (28/01/10)

CWDC, in partnership with NAPP, is offering outreach practitioners opportunities to access training from May 2010 until March 2011. Funding is available for up to 5,000 practitioners, who deliver outreach and are based in or linked to Children's Centres across England, to take up new training opportunities by March 2010.

A training course and resources have been developed to meet the development needs of children's centre outreach practitioners. It is based on a unit from the Work with Parents Level 3 qualification and includes the draft core principles and standards for outreach developed by DCSF. The CWDC will also be offering other relevant training through training providers in the regions.

Launch events will enable employers of outreach practitioners to find out more about the new training opportunities:

- 4th March 2010 Bristol
- 5th March 2010 London
- 8th March 2010 Manchester

http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/news/3011_cwdc-launches-training-for-children-s-centre-outreach-practitioners

National Identity Cards (25/01/10)

Young people 16-24 who live in London will be able to apply for a £30 national identity card from 08/01/10, following the successful uptake of cards in Greater Manchester and NW England. The cards provide a secure and convenient way for people to prove their identity whether they are travelling in Europe - the cards can also be used in place of a passport for travel throughout Europe - or buying age-restricted goods.

<http://press.homeoffice.gov.uk/press-releases/young-londoners-get-id-cards.html>

<http://idsmart.direct.gov.uk/index.html>

21st century sex and relationship education (25/01/10)

Updated guidance on SRE is to be given to schools to help teach young people how to cope with the pressure they often face from peers and the media. Secondary school pupils will be encouraged to discuss the myths around growing up, sex and relationships that they hear from friends, helping them to put media stories and images into context.

This SRE will be taught within lessons on PSHE. The Government is legislating to make PSHE compulsory and to lower the age at which parents can withdraw children from PSHE from 19 to 15.

This draft guidance sets out the key issues essential to effective SRE, including:

- Explaining the challenges and responsibilities of parenthood
- Teaching SRE in line with the school's values and ethos, and ensuring parents are consulted on what is being taught
- Giving teachers access to high-quality up-to-date support and training to assist with their delivery of SRE.
- Highlighting the importance of marriage and strong and stable relationships for bringing up children and promoting love and respect in relationships
- Helping young people stand up to pressures to lose their virginity and to respect the choices other people make regarding sex and relationships

The content of the SRE curriculum will also be appropriate to the age of the child e.g.

- Primary school children will gain a basic understanding of where babies come from, the correct names for parts of the body and to listen to other people and play and work cooperatively



- Secondary school pupils will develop the skills and confidence to say no if they are not ready for a sexual relationship and learn how to avoid unplanned pregnancies and STIs when they do become sexually active

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2010_0022

SEE CONSULTATIONS

Keeping Children and Young People in Mind (Jan 2010)

Supporting children and young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health is a critical issue for public health. Effective services in this area will not only make children's lives better, but also prevent individuals experiencing mental health problems later in life, bringing benefits for their health, education, employment and relationships.

The Government commissioned an independent review of CAMHS in 2007 to examine how these services could improve. The review found that local services have made significant progress in recent years, but that more can be done to improve the consistency, accessibility and suitability of services.

This leaflet summarises the Government's full response to the review and sets out the features of good services which all local areas should be working towards delivering. [http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01124-2009&](http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01124-2009&http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-01124-2009.PDF)
<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-01124-2009.PDF>

Families Experiencing Multiple Disadvantage: Their Use of and Views on Childcare Provision (Jan 2010)

The many childcare and early education initiatives over the last decade are an important route to achieving success in the ECM programme. However, it is known that disadvantaged families (e.g. non-working families and families with low income) are less likely to use formal childcare than families in better circumstances. Less research has been conducted on childcare use by multiply disadvantaged families.

This report/summary aims to help fill this gap, using data from the 2008 Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents, to explore the experience of multiple problems among parents and the relationship between multiple disadvantage and childcare.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RB191&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RB191.pdf>
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RR191&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR191.pdf>

Extended services evaluation - reaching disadvantaged groups and individuals: Thematic review (Jan 2010)

By 2010, all schools in England will be expected to offer access to a wide range of extended services from 8am - 6pm, 48 weeks a year, including school holidays. Schools may provide these services on-site or may provide access to such services offered by other schools or centres.

This review aimed to increase understanding of how schools in a range of circumstances

defined and responded to 'disadvantage' in their development of extended services. In particular, it explored how they targeted disadvantaged individuals and groups for particular services, and how they encouraged take-up of services by those groups.

This publication presents the findings of the review and offers recommendations on how the service can be improved in the future.
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RR196&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR196.pdf>

Boost to get kids walking to school (26/01/10)

A scheme that encourages families to ditch the car and walk their children to school at least once a week will receive an £800,000 boost, Public Health Minister Gillian Merron will announce today.

The 'Walk Once a Week' scheme run by the Living Streets charity, rewards children who walk to school 1 day a week with a metal badge for each month they take part.

The funding will be used to expand the scheme to at least 900 more schools with a focus on the West Midlands, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, and Tyne and Wear, where there are higher numbers of overweight and obese children.

The scheme, which has been running for 6 years and operates in every London borough, has been an overwhelming success so far. 59% of girls and 60% of boys in participating schools take part in the scheme and walk to school at least 1 day a week.
<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=410583&SubjectId=2>

Planning Transition to Adulthood for Looked After Children - Including guidance on the amended Children Leaving Care Regulations

In response to evidence that young people who had experienced LA care had very poor outcomes, the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 introduced new requirements on local authorities to plan for looked after children so that they have the support they need to succeed as they make their transition to the responsibilities of adulthood.

The support provided in this guidance should ensure that throughout the period that children and young people are provided with services from their responsible authority, their needs are subject to ongoing assessment and review, so that the authority can plan for them in order that they are offered the interventions required to respond to their needs and put them on the pathway to success as they make their transition to adulthood.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00124-2010&>

Learning Agreement Pilots: Evaluation of the 2008-2009 extension (Jan 2010)

The LAP were targeted at 16-17 year olds in 'jobs without training' to increase access to learning options for this group and re-engage them in learning. Young people (and in some areas, their employers) were offered financial incentives including bonus payments and wage compensation. A Learning Agreement was also drawn up, which outlined the accredited training that the young person would undertake.

3 variants of LAP were piloted with a view to identifying the most successful model. The LAP were extended from April 2008 to



April 2009. This research presents the results of an evaluation of implementation and delivery during the extension period.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RB202&>
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RB202.pdf>
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RR202&>
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR202.pdf>

Commissioning: A survey of the views and experiences of providers of services to children, young people and families 2009 (Jan 2010)

This research aimed to gather robust evidence of providers' views and experiences of being commissioned by LAs and their Children's Trusts partners in order to inform DCSF development of commissioning policy. It also sought to identify why providers enter or leave markets, expand or retrench services, their view of the future and to assess Compact compliance.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RR199&>
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR199.pdf>

Parental Opinion Survey 2009 (Jan 2010)

This Survey was set up to provide Ministers with information about the opinions of parents on issues, focusing on their role as parents, confidence as parents and views about the services they or their children use.

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RR194&>
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR194.pdf>

National Chlamydia Screening Programme (28/01/10)

This report examines the delivery of the Programme, improving the efficiency of services and the DH's approach to managing a national initiative in a devolved NHS.

Chlamydia is the most commonly diagnosed bacterial STI and its prevalence is increasing. It is often symptomless but if left untreated can lead to serious health problems including infertility in women.

The Screening Programme aims to identify, treat and control infection in young people under 25. Since its 2003 launch an estimated £100m has been spent but the DH does not yet know what effect, if any, this has had on reducing prevalence of the infection. During 07–08 only 5% of 15- 24 year-olds were tested, against a target of 15%. When it became clear little was happening the DH introduced a new requirement of 17%, which drove the rate up to around 16% in 08–09.

The DH's lack of urgency in pressing PCTs to reach a high volume of testing means that the Programme has not yet reached the level of activity where models predict that the prevalence of chlamydia will be significantly reduced. As a result, more young people than necessary are still being infected and potential savings to the NHS in treating the consequences of the infection have been lost.

The DH missed an opportunity to refine the Programme and to improve its cost-effectiveness, during the lengthy rollout. When PCTs increased their activity to meet the 17% target, a fragmented and inefficient programme became even more wasteful of taxpayers' money.

The DH needs to make this Programme a national response to a national problem. It should identify the most cost-effective local delivery strategies, establish regional or national commissioning arrangements, increase testing numbers and measure the Programme's impact on the prevalence of chlamydia. By improving efficiency, economies estimated at £40m per year could be made by 2010–11.

<http://news.parliament.uk/2010/01/report-examines-chlamydia-screening-programme/>
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/200910/cmselect/cmpublic/283/28302.htm>

The Careers Profession Taskforce (25/01/10)

'A new taskforce will ensure skilled and motivated careers professionals give all young people high-quality advice', said Schools Minister Iain Wright. It will report its findings to Government in summer 2010.

The taskforce will look at a number of areas including:

- recruitment and retention of well-qualified careers professionals
- ensuring that the profession is diverse and reflects the make-up of the working population
- whether all career specialists should hold a specialist qualification.

There will also be 3 regional roadshow events to encourage more employers to offer more and better work experience placements:

- 12th February 2010 Leeds
- 16th March 2010 Nottingham
- 18th March 2010 Manchester

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/index.cfm?event=news.item&id=new_taskforce_launched_to_ensure_high_quality_careers_advice_for_young_people

Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework

Objectives of the revised framework are to:

- promote YOT performance improvement
- shape youth justice system improvement
- improve outcomes for young people.

As part of the framework, YOTs are required to submit a Youth Justice Strategic Plan and a Capacity and Capability Self-Assessment.

This page provides links to the following:

- Self assessment template and guidance
- Guidance for YJB regional staff/Wales Team
- Capacity and Capability Self Assessment – validators notes

<http://www.yjb.gov.uk/en-gb/practitioners/MonitoringPerformance/YouthJusticePlanning/>

Absenteeism from Primary Schools, 2008/09 (21/01/10)

Key points from this latest statistical release. In 2008/09,

- 6.8% of half-day sessions were missed through authorised and unauthorised absence, up 0.1% from 07/08
- 1% of half-day sessions were missed through unauthorised absence, up 0.1%
- The percentage of half-day sessions missed due to both overall absence and unauthorised absence is higher in Wales compared with England, however the gap between continues to narrow
- Boys and girls had the same rate of both overall and unauthorised absenteeism
- A little under 5,500 pupils (2.8%) had no absence from school in 2008/09
- Just over 1/5 of pupils account for around half the total number of absent sessions.

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/schools2010/0121/?lang=en>

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/statistics/2010/100121sdr132010en.pdf>

Young people not in education, employment or training, Year to 30 June 2009

This article summarises the available statistics on young people NEET in Wales for the year ending 30/06/09

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/articles/0120/?lang=en>

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/statistics/2010/100120neet0609en.pdf>

Disabled pupils — helping schools to prepare for the 2011 School Census (29/01/10)

It's sometimes far from easy to know which children are disabled according to the official Disability Discrimination Act 2005 definition. Schools should already know who they are, to be able to discharge their Disability Equality Duty, but the imminent inclusion of 2 questions on disability in the January 2011 School Census will make the need more pressing, and it's a fact that most schools simply don't know who all their disabled members are.

This draft tool for use by school staff, working together with parents, consists of a combination of a questionnaire for parents and a selection of classroom activities which involve all children — not only those with disabilities — in the work. Schools and LAs are invited to help with testing and refining it as members of a research project.

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/disability/identifydisabledlearners/>

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/research/pdes/>

Focus on engaging parents (03/02/10)

Read about the new strategy for supporting families and get tips on resources to help engage parents.

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/news/?id=2303>

Workforce reform in schools: has it made a difference? (26/01/10)

This study shows that, in the most effective schools visited, workforce reform had made a considerable difference to pupils' learning because leaders had ensured that all their staff had clear professional status, were well trained, were deployed effectively and were held accountable for contributing to pupils' learning and well-being. Despite the recommendations of the 4 previous reports by Ofsted, only a minority of the schools visited had a secure knowledge of the national occupational standards and the career development framework to help them develop their workforce.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Thematic-reports/Workforce-reform-in-schools-has-it-made-a-difference>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/10711/127855/file/Workforce%20reform%20in%20schools%20has%20it%20made%20a%20difference.pdf>

Legislation on Hospital Environments for young Mental Health patients (27/01/10)

This letter informs how from 01/04/10 legislation places a duty on hospital managers to ensure that under 18s are treated in an environment in hospital which is suitable having regard to their age (subject to their needs).

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletters/DH_111565

http://www.dh.gov.uk/dr_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_111564.pdf

The Vetting and Barring Scheme e-guide to the Application Process (26/01/10)

The VBS will reduce the risk of harm to children and vulnerable adults by preventing individuals who are unsuitable from gaining access to them through their work or voluntary activities.

- From 26/07/10, new entrants to, and those changing activity provider, in positions working with children or vulnerable adults', whether paid or voluntary, will be able to apply to register with the ISA.
- From Nov 2010, it will be a legal requirement for these individuals to register with the ISA before starting work.
- Employees or volunteers already working with children or vulnerable adults will be phased into the scheme over a 5 year period and will be required to register between 01/04/11 and 31/07/15
- To register with the ISA, you will need to apply to the CRB using a registered body. It is straightforward and very similar to the current process for applying for a CRB check, and you can apply for a CRB check and ISA-registration on the same form

This e-guide will take you through the entire application process, including how to complete the application form correctly.

<http://www.crb.homeoffice.gov.uk/eguide>
<http://www.crbeguide.co.uk/>

ISA Referral Guidance and Form (19/01/10)

The new referral guidance and form is now available.

<http://www.isa->

[gov.org.uk/default.aspx?page=379](http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/default.aspx?page=379)

<http://www.isa->

[gov.org.uk/PDF/ISA%20Referral%20Guidance%20%20V2009-02.pdf](http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/PDF/ISA%20Referral%20Guidance%20%20V2009-02.pdf)

<http://www.isa->

[gov.org.uk/Docs/SVGA2006_ISA_Referral_form_19-09-2009.doc](http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/Docs/SVGA2006_ISA_Referral_form_19-09-2009.doc)

Video Recordings Act 2010 (21/01/10)

The purpose of the Act is to secure the enforceability of provisions of the Video Recordings Act 1984. Certain provisions of the 1984 Act should have been notified in draft to the European Commission before that Act was passed in accordance with Council Directive 83/189/EEC of 28 March 1983 (“the Technical Standards Directive”). Failure to notify provisions in accordance with the Technical Standards Directive has the effect that the provisions are not enforceable against individuals.

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2010/ukpga_20100001_en_1

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2010/en/ukpgaen_20100001_en_1

The Children Act 1989 (Amendment of Miscellaneous Regulations) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2009 SI 3265 (W.286)

These Regulations revoke The Children Act 1989 (Amendment of Miscellaneous Regulations) (Wales) Regulations 2009 which contained drafting errors.

The Children Act 2004 extended the meaning of “organisation” in the 1989 Act to include an unincorporated association. These Regulations make amendments to the Childminding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2002 and the Registration of Social Care and Independent Health Care (Wales) Regulations 2002 to give administrative effect to that amendment. They also amend the schedule of documents and information that an applicant for registration is required to provide where a person has been appointed to be in charge of day care.

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/wales/wsi_2009/wsi_20093265_en_1

The Policing and Crime Act 2009 (Commencement No. 3) Order 2010 SI 125

Provisions coming into force on 29/01/10 include:

s28 (selling alcohol to children);

s29 (confiscating alcohol from young persons);

s30 (offence of persistently possessing alcohol in a public place);

s31 (directions to individuals who represent a risk of disorder);

s32 (mandatory licensing conditions relating to alcohol);

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/uksi_2010_0125_en_1

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (Youth Conditional Cautions: Code of Practice) Order 2010 SI 127

This Order, if approved by Parliament, would provide guidance to the CPS and police (and to other “relevant prosecutors” and “authorised persons”) on the use of Youth Conditional Cautions, in respect of those aged 16 and 17, under Part IV of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Criminal Justice & Immigration Act 2008).

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/em/uksiem_20100127_en.pdf

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2010/uksi_2010_0127_en_1

Free healthy breakfasts (01/02/10)

The Welsh Assembly Government makes funding available to provide free school breakfasts for primary schools throughout Wales. Around 66% of all primary schools are now offering free breakfasts to their pupils.

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/latest/100201healthybreakfast/?lang=en>

Children fear being bullied and victimised by proposals to expand media access to family courts (22/01/10)

Interim research findings reveal how some children and young people really feel about the Government's proposal to allow the media to report on evidence from family court proceedings.

The research shows that most C&YP involved in family court cases would be unwilling or less willing to discuss maltreatment or talk about ill treatment by a parent, express their wishes and feelings and any problems they were having at school with a journalist present. This could seriously impact on a judge's ability to make difficult and often life changing decisions in their best interests.

C&YP involved in the research say they are worried about further humiliation resulting from information about their families being placed in the public arena as this could lead to bullying in schools and communities.

The evidence also highlights children's scepticism at the power of the law, and other adults, such as lawyers and judges, to protect their privacy even if a formal ban exists on publishing information where they could be identified.

The C&YP stress the importance of them being told right from the start of the legal process that a journalist may be in court to hear their evidence. They also feel strongly that judges or magistrates should seek children's views before deciding whether to admit the media to a hearing about their safety and care.

http://www.11million.org.uk/content/news_release/content_359

Understanding Children's Well-being: A National Survey of Young People's Well-Being (27/01/10)

Children's well-being is far more strongly influenced by levels of family conflict than by family structure, according to new research by The Children's Society. Young people who felt that their family got along well together had much higher average levels of well-being than those who did not, irrespective of the family structure they lived in.

The difference between a young person's family getting along - and not - explained 20% of the variation in overall happiness with life, whereas differences in family structure only explained 2%.

http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/whats_happening/media_office/latest_news/19895_pr.html

Registered childcare providers and places in England – Dec 08 onwards (01/02/10)

This database includes the maximum number of places a provider may offer at any one time.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Statistics/Registered-childcare-providers-and-places-in-England-December-2008-onwards>

Registered childcare inspections outcomes (01/02/10)

This page has statistics for the inspection of childcare in England since the introduction of the Early Years Foundation Stage (08), the new regulatory and quality framework for the provision of learning, development and care for children between 0 and 5.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Statistics/Registered-childcare-inspections-outcomes>

ADCS President - Association's position on publication of full SCR reports

(22/01/10)

“The publication of a full final report about a SCR poses risks for other vulnerable children who were involved in the case. To put those children at further risk is unacceptable. The legal guidance clearly states that the risk of identifying personal data must be taken into consideration when releasing information relating to SCRs. The best way to ensure that no personal data is released is for a comprehensive executive summary, containing all relevant information and recommendations on lessons learned to be produced and published. The summaries should be honest and transparent so that the public, politicians and families are clear about what, if anything, went wrong and what action is to be taken. There must be a mechanism to give the public confidence that summaries are honest and transparent. The evaluation of SCRs is currently under review following Lord Laming's recommendations, and this mechanism should be considered as part of that.”

<http://www.adcs.org.uk/PressReleases/ADC-S-PR-Statement-on-the-publication-of-Serious-Case-Reviews.pdf>

FREE workshop on safeguarding children and young people

2 nd March 2010	London
3 rd March 2010	London
15 th March 2010	Leicester
30 th March 2010	York

The ‘Are they Safe?’ pack includes a step by step guide, a DVD and other information to help managers, staff and volunteers who provide activities to children and young people feel confident about what they need to do to safeguard children effectively.



To promote this resource the Safe Network will be running regional workshops for representatives from community and voluntary sector organisations and from support and umbrella groups.

The aim is to familiarise participants with the resource and to explore how they can use it to improve safeguarding practice in their own group or organisation. Participants are expected to be prepared to run similar workshops for others in their local areas.

http://www.safenetwork.org.uk/news_and_events/news_articles/Pages/are_they_safe_workshops.aspx

http://www.safenetwork.org.uk/RESOURCE/S/ARE_THEY_SAFE/Pages/default.aspx

**HSE Myth of the Month: Feb 2010
There's nothing you can do about slips and trips and they don't really hurt anyone anyway**

Most slips and trips are preventable and many happen when spills aren't cleared up or clutter tidied away. Last year, there were 4 fatalities and more than 10 000 employees were seriously injured when they had a slip or trip at work. This results in broken bones and time off work, costing the economy around £800m per year. Simple mistakes can shatter lives ... your actions could help stop them from happening.

Don't take things for granted, cut corners or wait for someone else to do it. Clear up!

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/myth/feb10.htm>

Consultations

Sex and Relationships Education Guidance (25/01/10)

The purpose of this consultation is to gather views on this draft document which provides guidance to maintained primary, secondary, special schools and PRUs in England on all matters relating to SRE, including how good quality SRE can be planned and delivered, how to develop an SRE policy and how to support the health and social needs of all pupils with regard to sex and relationships.

It is relevant to all staff, particularly senior managers and those responsible for co-ordinating, teaching and supporting the delivery of SRE. Headteachers and governing bodies are required by law to have regard to the guidance

Closing Date: 19th April 2010

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1637&external=no&menu=1>

Draft Regulations, and Associated Statutory Guidance, for Local Authorities to Provide Short Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children and Young People (01/02/10)

This consultation is on draft Regulations to require LAs in England to provide services designed to assist parents/carers to be able to continue to provide care for disabled children and young people, or to do so more effectively, by giving them access to short breaks from their caring responsibilities.

The consultation is also on associated draft Statutory Guidance aimed at helping local authorities, and others, to understand the legal context of their duty to provide short breaks; issues related to eligibility for short breaks; the range of short breaks required; local assessment of sufficiency of provision; planning and information.

Closing Date: 26th April 2010

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1688&external=no&menu=1>

Conferences

What Helps Children? Evidence Based Analysis for Family Court

24th February 2010 Birmingham
£55 - £75 + VAT

This conference is a forum for dissemination of research relevant to social work with children and families, involved with the Family Justice and Family Court system. It is aimed at practitioners and researchers within: LA Children's Services, LSCBs, Health Services for C&YP and Families, Universities and Research Institutes, Cafcass, Courts and Legal Professionals and Voluntary Organisations.

The conference themes are:

- Contact, Risk Management and Changing Needs
- Child Inclusive Practice

http://www.cafcass.gov.uk/about_cafcass/media/events.aspx

Extended services: Getting "hard to reach" schools on board

31st March 2010 London
£150 - £250 +VAT

By July 09 83% of schools were delivering childcare, after-school activities, access to specialist services, parenting support and community access to facilities. But rolling this out to the remainder is a challenge for LAs. This seminar will explore best practice in engaging senior leaders with the extended services agenda.

It will cover:

- Understanding the school perspective
- The positive impact of extended services on hard-to-reach schools
- An overview of national best practice in engaging hard-to-reach schools

<https://member.lgiu.org.uk/events/Pages/CSN310310.aspx>

Online Child Protection

18th May 2010 London
£229 - £399 + VAT

This conference will provide you with the latest policy, solutions and strategies in online child protection. It will also present an opportunity to hear from Board Members of the newly formed UK Council for Child Internet Safety. Representatives from O2, BT and the NSPCC, who recently released the country's first Internet Safety policy, will provide an update on their work and show what schools can do to protect their students online.

A series of workshops will help you;

- Investigate and gather evidence of cyberbullying in your school
- Take away practical strategies on dealing with the aftermath of cyberbullying
- Develop and implement an e-safety policy in your school
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of your e-safety policy
- Develop your staff's knowledge of online security to protect them and your student

Benefits of attending:

- Help parents engage with their children's learning to keep them safe online
- Train your staff to develop an e-safety culture
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of your e-safety policy
- Empower your students to protect themselves online
- Download speakers' presentations after the conference and lead the training in your school.

<http://www.teachingexpertise.com/landing/ME10A-EP301-Order.html>

Conferences (continued)

Vetting and Barring Scheme (28/01/10)

9th February Southampton

Peter Lee

p.lee@southamptonvs.org.uk

11th February Newbury

Online booking

www.cawb.org.uk

18th February Wolverhampton

Maureen Nichols

maureen@ncvys.org.uk

These briefing events, put together by the NCVYS and Children England, are aimed primarily at the volunteering sector. For all booking enquiries and for information about these particular events, please contact the listed representative.

<http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/default.aspx?page=388>

Handled with Care? - Learning from 20th and 21st Century care leavers about their care experiences

4th March 2010 York

£95 - £155 + VAT

Closing date: 11th February 2010

Care matters most... to those in care! Post-care adults, recent care leavers, those campaigning for care leavers' rights and services, and those who have researched in this area have much to teach us. Consider what we have learned, what has changed and what needs to change if we are to best support children and young people in care now, and ensure that their experience of care is positive.

This conference aims to:

- provide an opportunity to hear the experiences of post-care adults and recent care leavers
- reflect on the changes and progress that have been made in services provided for people in care
- consider what we can learn from past practice and how we can improve services now and in the future
- debate how best to support children and young people in care today
- explore best practice in helping post-care adults to access information - using BAAF's new practice guide

http://www.baaf.org.uk/res/training/details/100304_york.shtml

http://www.baaf.org.uk/res/training/details/100304_york.pdf

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