

Keeping Connected - The CPCScotland Weekly Bulletin

Issue 62 - Tuesday 22nd June 2021

Issued to support Child Protection Committees and partners with up to date information on child protection issues.

Welcome to Issue 62 of Keeping Connected.

There are two important announcements in this week's Keeping Connected.

Firstly I am delighted to let you know that CPCScotland launched its latest public awareness campaign 'For Kids Sake...' today. Briefing packs were circulated to all CPCScotland members last week with suggested social media content and a press release which can be amended and circulated locally. I would urge you all to support the campaign by liking and sharing our social media posts and linking to the Child Protection Scotland campaign webpage. If you would like a copy of the briefing pack please contact Susan Mitchell at cpcscotland-liaison@strath.ac.uk

The second announcement is the publication of the updated Framework for Risk Assessment Management and Evaluation (FRAME) with children aged 12-17 & Care & Risk Management (CARM) processes by Scottish Government. Members of CPCScotland had the opportunity to comment on a draft of this guidance and it is good to see it published.

Keeping Connected will be issued as usual next week, thereafter moving to fortnightly over the summer holiday period.

As always, please let us know of any local work your CPC is involved with so that we can highlight it in the bulletin. Contact Susan Mitchell at cpcscotland-liaison@strath.ac.uk

Keep safe and keep in touch.

Alan Small, Chair Child Protection Committees Scotland

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 CPCScotland 'For Kids' Sake' Campaign Launches Today

In this new 7 week For Kids' Sake... campaign, Child Protection Committees Scotland are asking everyone to look and listen carefully for signs that all is not well for a child, and pay full attention if a child or young person's behaviour has changed. Designed specifically to coincide with the school holidays, the campaign uses a series of vivid, summery images combined with direct "instruction" phrases encouraging action. The campaign not only asks family members, friends and members of the local community to be alert to signs that all is not well, but also not to stay silent if they're worried about a child.

This Scotland-wide digital campaign launched today and will run for 7 weeks on our public-facing Child Protection Scotland social media streams and website. Content will be posted throughout the campaign via our social media streams - Facebook, Twitter and Instagram - using our @childprotectscot handle. The campaign features a wide range of eye-catching new illustrations and short animations, "instruction" messages, and the campaign hashtag **#forkidssake**.

All content will direct people to a campaign specific webpage for further information on what to do if they're worried about a child. Please support the campaign by liking and sharing our social media posts and links to the Child Protection Scotland campaign webpage.

<https://www.childprotection.scot/for-kids-sake/>



2 Framework for Risk Assessment Management and Evaluation (FRAME) with children aged 12-17 & Care & Risk Management (CARM)

This update of the 2014 guidance outlines the standards and operational requirements for risk practice in circumstances where a child's behaviour may pose an imminent risk of serious harm or has caused serious harm.

This framework recognises that in all circumstances where aspects of a child's behaviour has or may pose a risk of serious harm to others, initial consideration as to whether child protection actions are required is critical. Consideration should be given to the need to protect any child harmed, as well as to whether the child who has caused the harm is in need of protection, as research tells us that often children who have caused serious harm have experienced trauma in their own lives and are potentially still living in that trauma situation. However, where there is a risk of serious harm to others, additional guidance is required for the management and reduction of the potential risk of harm. This document provides the standards, guidance and operational requirements for risk practice.

Section 1 is the Framework for Risk Assessment Management and Evaluation (FRAME) for children aged 12-17.

Section 2 of the document provides updated operational requirements for implementing Care and Risk Management (CARM), the proposed best practice formal risk management process, underpinned by the principles of risk practice through a child-centric lens.

The governance and oversight requirements sit with Child Protection Committee's and are as follows:-

- CPC will provide oversight and scrutiny of the functioning of the CARM process, the decision-making, views of children and their parents/ carers involved.
- When a child subject to CARM process has been involved in an incident where further harm has resulted from their behaviour the CARM chair must notify the CPC for consideration about whether a Learning Review is required.

A proposed dataset for monitoring data on the use of the CARM process is included.

[Framework for Risk Assessment Management and Evaluation Guidance - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

Guidance, Resources and Information

3 Modern slavery and child trafficking

The Home Office has published guidance for a pilot programme that will test alternative models of decision making for child victims of modern slavery and human trafficking. The ten pilot programmes in England, Wales and Scotland start in June 2021 and will run for 12 months. Separate guidance for the pilot site of Glasgow City Council is due to be published in recognition that Scotland operates with devolved legislation and has a different statutory framework regarding child welfare, protection and human trafficking.

[Piloting devolving decision making for child victims of modern slavery - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/piloting-devolving-decision-making-for-child-victims-of-modern-slavery)

4 ACEs, Distance and Sources of Resilience

This CYCJ report shares findings from their 2019 secure care census, which measured the prevalence of a range of life experiences encountered by children resident within Scotland's secure care estate on one particular day in 2019.

Key findings include:

74% of children surveyed had been exposed to four or more ACEs prior to entering secure care – higher than the 64% recorded in the 2018 census

Even greater levels of exposure were found amongst those children who lived in relative poverty, with 86% of children having been exposed to four or more ACEs.

Sixty three percent of children had been placed in secure care by a Scottish local authority, and 37% from England and Wales

Being placed by a local authority from outwith Scotland was found to be a statistically significant factor in a child's exposure to ACEs

Most Scottish children were placed less than 50 miles from their family. For children from England and Wales, 69% were placed more than 300 miles away from families.

The majority of children from Scottish local authorities were boys, (63%) but most from outwith Scotland were girls (56%)

There was an increase in the number of 16 and 17 year old children in secure care

[ACEs, Distance and Sources of Resilience - Children's and Young People's Centre for Justice \(cycj.org.uk\)](https://www.cycj.org.uk/research/aces-distance-and-sources-of-resilience)

5 A Guide to Youth Justice: policy, practice and legislation

The Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) has published 'A Guide to Youth Justice: policy, practice and legislation', its updated youth justice

practice guidance for 2021 aimed at practitioners and managers who work with children and young people who offend or who are at risk of offending:

[CYCJ updates Scotland's youth justice practice guidance for 2021 - Children's and Young People's Centre for Justice](#)

6 The Case for Change

England's independent review of children's social care has launched its first report, 'The Case for Change', which identifies the biggest perceived challenges in social care, including too much of a focus on investigating families in crisis instead of providing early support – a summary of the report for young people has also been published:

[case-for-change.pdf \(independent-review.uk\)](#)

[case-for-change-young-people.pdf \(independent-review.uk\)](#)

Training, Learning Events and Resources

7 Learning the lessons from Punishing Abuse: Why professional curiosity and knowing a child well matters – Webinar

This free webinar from Care Knowledge takes place on 30th June at 10am. It provides an opportunity to hear Dr Alex Chard discuss his recently published and highly impactful report, Punishing Abuse, with the Youth Custody Service's Head of Safeguarding, Wendy Tomlinson, who has a longstanding background at a senior management level in children's services. The focus of the webinar will be on drawing out lessons for frontline professionals working in children's services – paying specific attention to the importance of professional curiosity, seeing the links between early harms and later behaviours and the development of empathic knowing.

<https://learn.pavpub.com/ck-learning-the-lessons-from-punishing-abuse/>

8 Understanding the role of the designated lead for safeguarding in faith-based organisations – Webinar

This free webinar from the Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) takes place on 14th July from 10am-11:30am. It will explore the importance of the role of the designated lead for safeguarding in faith-based organisations, what the role should encompass and how to tackle some of the professional challenges that might be faced.

[Webinar: Understanding the role of the designated lead for safeguarding in faith-based organisations | SCIE](#)

9 Approaching the cliff-edge of 18 – Webinar recording

The National Mental Capacity Forum (NMCF) hosted a webinar to explore the challenges associated with the transition to adulthood for persons with impaired decision-making capacity and their families. The webinar is now available to watch online.

[Webinar: Approaching the cliff-edge of 18 | National Mental Capacity Forum \(scie.org.uk\)](#)

10 Safeguarding in local communities

The Village Halls Podcast has released a podcast discussing safeguarding children and young people in village halls. The podcast features NSPCC senior consultant Shirley Maginley who explains responsibilities around child protection and safeguarding, including DBS checks and other aspects of good practice.

[Home - The Village Halls Podcast](#)

Research and Evidence Based Reports

11 Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

NSPCC Learning has published an evaluation of the implementation of the NSPCC's Keeping Safe programme in five schools for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and additional support needs in Northern Ireland between 2016 and 2018. The programme aims to support school staff and parents to deliver sensitive messages to children about recognising abusive behaviours. The evaluation found that the programme can be implemented in the context of the special school, with the right support and resources.

[Teaching children and young people in special schools to recognise abusive behaviours | NSPCC Learning](#)

12 SEND: old issues, new issues, next steps

Ofsted has published a report about the experiences of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families during the coronavirus pandemic, in the context of the SEND reforms over the last 10 years. Findings from visits by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission in 2020/21 to 10 local areas representing 84,000 children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) support show: the cumulative effects of the disruption caused by the pandemic on the health, learning and development of children with SEND; missed and narrowed education; the absence of essential services such as physiotherapy or speech and language support; and long waiting times for assessment and treatment.

[SEND: old issues, new issues, next steps - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

13 Loneliness

The House of Commons Library has published a briefing looking at research into the prevalence, causes and impact of loneliness including among children and young people and interventions to address the issue. The focus is England with an overview of approaches in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Separately, the library has produced a reading list on loneliness.

[Tackling loneliness - House of Commons Library \(parliament.uk\)](#)

[Loneliness: a reading list - House of Commons Library \(parliament.uk\)](#)

News and Opinion

14 In the Media

- The Herald has published an opinion piece on the campaign to end child marriage (of 16-17 year-olds) in England, calling on Scotland to also raise the legal age for marriage.
[Rebecca McQuillan: It's time for Scotland to end child marriage | HeraldScotland](#)
- Kent County Council, which has threatened legal action against the UK Government's Home Secretary Priti Patel over the 'extreme pressure' on its services due to having to care for more unaccompanied asylum-seeking children than it has capacity for.
[Kent to turn away lone child migrants from Monday due to "extreme pressure" - BBC News](#)
- The Duchess of Cambridge has established the Centre for Early Childhood to raise awareness of the importance of early years
[Duchess of Cambridge launches 'landmark' centre for childhood - BBC News](#)
- The Scottish Government is introducing a Bill to extend some COVID-19 emergency measures due to expire in September 2021 to March 2022, while proposing other emergency measures do end in September, such as the emergency operational measures in respect of Children's Hearings and child protection.
[Coronavirus in Scotland: New Bill to extend emergency legislation into 2022 | The Scotsman](#)
- Holyrood Magazine editor Mandy Rhodes has written an opinion piece calling on The Promise Scotland to start delivering on the 'immediate and urgent work' and systemic changes identified by Scotland's Independent Care Review.
<https://www.holyrood.com/editors-column/view,a-time-to-care>

15 Free Dental care for 18-25 year olds

The Scottish Government has announced that all young people aged 18 to 25 will receive free dental care, going beyond its original commitment to remove dental charges for care experienced young people.

[Free NHS dental care for young people - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

16 Financial redress for survivors of abuse in care

During a Ministerial Statement on Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) Scotland Act 2021 in the Scottish Parliament the Chair of Redress Scotland was announced as Johnny Gwynne, former Deputy Chief Constable of Police Scotland and past director of the UK National Crime Agency with responsibility for tackling child exploitation.

[Financial redress for survivors of abuse in care - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

17 Restraint and seclusion

The British Association of Social Work has released a podcast discussing the restraint and seclusion of children and young people with additional needs in educational settings. The podcast explores plans to introduce new guidance in Northern Ireland to prevent the use of restrictive practices and considers if experiences from elsewhere in the UK can inform these plans.

[Ending Restraint and Seclusion - Podcast - Ann Craft Trust](#)

Please let us know what you think about the bulletin and provide information for inclusion in future editions. Contact Alan Small or Susan Mitchell at cpcscotland-liaison@strath.ac.uk.

Please note that the information included in this bulletin is provided in good faith. Inclusion does not indicate CPCScotland endorsement of the content of the linked documents or websites.