



# DSPP e-Brief

24/04/2020



## **Updated Guidance for schools, childcare providers, colleges and local authorities in England on maintaining educational provision**

The UK Government has updated its guidance for schools, etc. on maintaining education provision.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19): SEND risk assessment guidance**

This guidance advises local authorities to conduct risk assessments and makes suggestions and recommendations for how that might be done in collaboration with educational settings and parents.

This guidance document relates particularly to children and young people whose need for hands-on care or whose behaviours mean that there are more, or more nuanced, risks to be managed than for the majority of children and young people with EHC plans.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-send-risk-assessment-guidance>

## **Safeguarding and remote education during Coronavirus**

The government has published guidance to schools about managing remote learning during this critical period. The guidance considers six main areas:

- Safeguarding pupils and teachers online
- Reporting concerns
- Communicating with parents, carers and pupils
- Virtual lessons and live streaming
- Providing pastoral care remotely
- Personal data and GDPR

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice and support for parents and carers**

The NSPCC has created a number of resources to support parents and carers during this difficult time. Topics include:

- Talking to a child worried about coronavirus
- Parents working from home
- Children staying home alone
- Lockdown and separated parents
- How to cope with tantrums and other difficult behaviour

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>

## **Coronavirus briefing: guidance for social workers**

Social workers have an important role to play in keeping children safe, particularly during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Although there is no published guidance for social workers in each UK nation, the NSPCC has pulled together key guidance from all four UK nations to answer some frequently asked questions.

This briefing will help you understand the guidance that social workers are being given.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/2196/coronavirus-briefing-guidance-for-social-workers.pdf>

## **Governing Body Information (National Governance Association)**

The National Governance Association (NGA) has produced a free safeguarding information sheet for governing boards covering: safeguarding guidance during COVID-19, revising the child protection policy to reflect new arrangements and advice about what governing boards should do.

<https://www.nga.org.uk/getmedia/661645b5-80ff-44a0-8fed-13bd2cf3afdc/NGA-Coronavirus-Guidance-Issue-4-19-March-2020.pdf>

The NGA's full range of COVID-19 resources for governing boards can be found here: <https://www.nga.org.uk/Knowledge-Centre/Executive-leaders-and-the-governing-boards/The-Coronavirus-Information-for-governing-boards-M.aspx>

## **Social work with children and families in the pandemic**

Brid Featherstone is a professor of Social Work at the University of Huddersfield. In her blog on the Research in Practice website, she writes about the challenges of social work, including carrying out home visits during this period of social distancing.

In the article, Prof. Featherstone discusses the following key areas:

- The importance of organisational context
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is essential
- The possibilities for practising differently
- Practising in the context of inequality
- Crises bring opportunities

More here: <https://www.researchinpractice.org.uk/children/news-views/2020/april/social-work-with-children-and-families-in-the-pandemic/>

## **From climbing walls to phone calls: how our services are adapting in a crisis**

Stability and routine are vital to many of the vulnerable children and young people we support. Yet the lives of many people have been turned upside down by this outbreak.

In this blog from the Children's Society, one of their team describes how her work with vulnerable young people has changed:

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/news-and-blogs/our-blog/from-climbing-walls-to-phone-calls-how-our-services-are-adapting-in-a-crisis>

## **Coronavirus: children and young people with learning difficulties**

The Challenging Behaviour Foundation has brought together information and resources to support families and carers of children and young people with severe learning disabilities during the coronavirus crisis.

<https://www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk/information/covid19information.html>

## **Coronavirus: county lines**

The Guardian reports that the head of intelligence and covert policing at British Transport Police has said that restrictions on public transport during the coronavirus lockdown has not resulted in a reduction in the number of young people being forced by gangs to travel from cities to towns and villages as part of county lines drug trafficking.

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/apr/13/gangs-still-forcing-children-into-county-lines-drug-trafficking-police-covid-19-lockdown>

## **Coronavirus: survey of professionals**

The Children's Society has launched a survey to gain insight into professionals' views on the issues affecting services for children and young people and the impact of coronavirus on their work.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SOAKNBzYq06lpLdJH6ikCHR939zAbv9Aq3l6KKCCb1xUNVhYUks1WTE5MVc2VTNUMkw1SEFLWThQTS4u>

## **Information about Covid-19 for families with disabled children**

The Council for Disabled Children has launched a new 'CDC questions' inbox, [CDCquestions@ncb.org.uk](mailto:CDCquestions@ncb.org.uk), to provide the opportunity to ask questions about how Coronavirus will impact on children and young people with SEND as well as other questions relating to the impact on families; the education, health, social care sectors; and the voluntary and community sector. The CDC will collate Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and share them with the Department for Education (DfE) and Ministers as appropriate, in order to publish an FAQs newsflash each Friday

For further resources from the CDC please see [Council for Disabled Children: Covid 19 Support and Guidance resources](#)

Additional helpful information for parent carers:

- <https://contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/coronavirus-information-for-families-with-disabled-children>
- <https://disabledchildrenspartnership.org.uk/coronavirus/>

NHS England have produced a Frequently Asked Questions document which they are updating weekly, you can find this here: <https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/help-resources/resources/nhs-england-nhs-improvement-frequently-asked-questions-faqs>

## **Developing Emotional Resilience and Wellbeing: a practical guide for social workers - a free guide from Community Care Inform**

A guide to developing emotional resilience and wellbeing freely available to everyone. It's a comprehensive guide, based on what research says supports resilience in social workers and is full of information and ideas to use in your practice.

The final section provides tools and techniques: What can I do to enhance my resilience? (on page 17).

<https://markallenassets.blob.core.windows.net/communitycare/2020/04/Community-Care-Inform-emotional-resilience-guide.pdf>

## **Issues around change resistant, dependant drinkers during covid outbreak**

Alcohol Change UK have published a further update on change resistant, dependent drinkers during Coronavirus based on conversations with providers around the country. This is in the form of a blog that can be accessed at:

<https://alcoholchange.org.uk/blog/2020/covid-19-supporting-the-most-vulnerable-drinkers>

Please also take a moment to visit [Alcohol Change UK's information and advice hub](#) for up to date information and advice on alcohol generally during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

If you haven't seen it, there is also PHE guidance for commissioners and providers of services for people who use drugs or alcohol: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-commissioners-and-providers-of-services-for-people-who-use-drugs-or-alcohol](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-commissioners-and-providers-of-services-for-people-who-use-drugs-or-alcohol) This is to support the continuity of drug and alcohol treatment services throughout the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic while protecting staff and service users.

## **'Tiered' approach to child safeguarding needs reform to tackle inequalities in provision, says study**

Research calls for services to focus on tackling problems rooted in families' social contexts, as seen in responses to child exploitation, and a 'rebalancing' back towards early intervention

[https://www.communitycare.co.uk/2020/04/22/tiered-approach-child-safeguarding-needs-reform-tackle-inequalities-provision-says-study/?utm\\_content=Tiered%20approach%20to%20child%20safeguarding%20needs%20reform&utm\\_campaign=CC%20daily%2023%2F4%2F2020&utm\\_source=Community%20Care&utm\\_medium=adestra\\_email&utm\\_term=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.communitycare.co.uk%2F2020%2F04%2F22%2Ftiered-approach-child-safeguarding-needs-reform-tackle-inequalities-provision-says-study%2F](https://www.communitycare.co.uk/2020/04/22/tiered-approach-child-safeguarding-needs-reform-tackle-inequalities-provision-says-study/?utm_content=Tiered%20approach%20to%20child%20safeguarding%20needs%20reform&utm_campaign=CC%20daily%2023%2F4%2F2020&utm_source=Community%20Care&utm_medium=adestra_email&utm_term=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.communitycare.co.uk%2F2020%2F04%2F22%2Ftiered-approach-child-safeguarding-needs-reform-tackle-inequalities-provision-says-study%2F)

## **LGBT Foundation release briefing on covid and impact on LGBT communities**

The briefing below focuses on the impact of COVID-19 on lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) communities and contains information for front-line staff to support the wider healthcare outcomes of LGBT patients during a period of strain across the NHS.

This includes not only highlighting the experiences of LGBT communities, but information to guide professionals, and to equip staff to signpost patients to additional support during a time when NHS resources are under stress.

Read briefing here - <http://www.lgbt.foundation/downloads/covidlgbtimpact>

### **SCIE are hosting a series of six free webinars on safeguarding.**

Each webinar will explore a different aspect of the safeguarding process, giving you an introduction to or a useful reminder of how to apply the safeguarding principles and your duties and responsibilities for keeping people safe.

Maximising the benefits of remote learning, each webinar will provide:

- a presentation from a safeguarding expert
- a forum for sharing ideas

Q&A opportunities to discuss the safeguarding challenges that you are facing.

You can attend one-off sessions to refresh your learning in a particular area or sign up to all six for a complete overview and introduction to safeguarding adults.

- 6th May What is adult safeguarding?
- 13th May Making safeguarding personal
- 20th May Information sharing for safeguarding
- 27th May Safeguarding and Human Rights
- 3rd June Section 42 enquiries for providers
- 10th June Self-neglect and safeguarding

These webinars are suitable for anybody currently working in or new to frontline practice in adult social care and health.

For more information on each session visit <https://www.scie.org.uk/care-providers/coronavirus-covid-19/virtual-courses/safeguarding-adults-training-webinar-series>

### **Baroness Doreen Lawrence will lead a review into the impact of coronavirus on black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, the Labour Party says.**

The campaigner and mother of murdered teenager Stephen Lawrence has been appointed as Labour's race relations adviser by leader Sir Keir Starmer.

[The review will examine why the virus appears to disproportionately impact those from ethnic minority backgrounds.](#)

The government has also commissioned an investigation into the issue.

[The Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre](#) found that 34% of more than 4,800 critically-ill patients with Covid-19 identified as black, Asian or minority ethnic.

This is despite only 14% of people in England and Wales being from ethnic minority backgrounds, according to the 2011 census.

## Social media

Did you know that the Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership have a twitter account - [@DSPPB](https://twitter.com/DSPPB) – click on the image below to visit our social media feed.



If your organisation has any information that you would like considered to include in these weekly briefings please email it to

[DSPPB.LearningZone@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:DSPPB.LearningZone@dudley.gov.uk)