

Safeguarding Information and Research Digest Issue 26 – July 2015

The LSCB Safeguarding Information and Research Digest provide a concise summary of recently published research knowledge, news, legislation and statistics on the topic of safeguarding. The digest provides hyperlinks to reports and further information.

The Safeguarding Information and Research Digest is designed to provide access to research information to a varied audience working across children and young people's services. The information is drawn from relevant electronic resources and databases, journals and texts and where appropriate from alternative sources such as inspection reports and annual reports.

This digest does not provide a definitive statement of all the evidence on a particular issue. Clicking on the "Source" and "Further information" links within the digest will take you to the relevant document/site.

News

NSPCC

In an article on p.10 of Public Health Today, the NSPCC's Jon Brown outlines the collaborative actions across all levels of society needed to prevent **child sexual abuse**. The NSPCC's recently published report, **Preventing child sexual abuse: towards a national strategy for England**, presents knowledge about effective programmes and primary prevention interventions.

[Public Health Today \(PDF\)](#) 03 July 2015

Further Information: [Preventing sexual abuse: towards a national strategy](#)

As part of the Impact and Evidence series, NSPCC has published an evaluation of the **Face to Face service** which supports children and young people aged between 5 and 18 who are in care or on the edge of care. Findings include: before receiving the Face to Face service 58% of children and young people had well being scores indicating clinical levels of distress, but by the end of their sessions this has reduced to only 15% of children.

Source: [NSPCC Website](#) 06 July 2015

Further information: [Evaluation of the Face to Face service: using a solution-focused approach with children and young people in care or on the edge of care \(PDF\)](#)

As part of the Impact and evidence series, the NSPCC has published a report providing recommendations and evidence for how the care system can be changed to prioritise and achieve **good emotional well being for all looked after children and care leavers**. Priorities for change include: support for looked after children should begin with a thorough assessment of their emotional and mental health needs.

Source: [NSPCC Website](#) 06 July 2015

Further information: [Achieving emotional wellbeing for looked after children: a whole system approach \(PDF\)](#)

The latest in the NSPCC's Dare to Debate series will focus on **childhood obesity**. With 1 in 5 children in the UK classified as obese, we will be debating a number of aspects of the issue including whether or not it is child abuse. The debate will take place in London between 9.30 am and 11.00 am on Tuesday 28 July. If you would like to attend and join in the debate please contact Barry Gardner (bgardner@nspcc.org.uk) for more information.

Source: [NSPCC Website](#) 02 July 2015

Further information: The Safe Network has published **safeguarding advice and information** for organisations that work with or come into contact with children. [NSPCC Website](#) 30 June 2015

Government

The BBC reports that the Work and Pensions Secretary has announced a new way of measuring **child**

poverty which will, in addition to income, consider other factors including educational achievement and living in workless households. The government will repeal the Child Poverty Act 2010 and has scrapped the definition of child poverty as living in a household with an income below 60% of the UK's average. The Department for Education has issued advice and social media guidance to schools and childcare providers to help them **keep children safe from the risk of radicalisation and extremism**.

Source: [BBC News](#) 01 July 2016, [Department for Education](#) 01 July 2015

Further information: [Protecting children from radicalisation: the prevent duty \(PDF\)](#), [The use of social media for online radicalisation \(PDF\)](#)

Legal

In Scotland, Alison McInnes MSP has proposed an amendment to the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill to **raise the age of criminal responsibility from eight to twelve**.

The BBC reports that former MP Lord Janner will be prosecuted for allegations of **historical sex abuse** after an independent QC's review overturned the Crown Prosecution Service's decision not to prosecute him because he suffers from dementia.

Source: [Barnardo's Scotland](#) 28 June 2015, [BBC Online](#) 29 June 2015

New Articles

A BBC report investigates the struggle of some local authorities to cope with the large increase in the number of **children seeking asylum in the UK**.

An investigation by Community Care into **child sexual exploitation** has found that in the last two years social workers have received 11,276 referrals about children at risk of exploitation; and in 2013-14, referrals were up 31% on the previous year. Despite this rise in referrals the number of children going on to receive support dropped.

Source: [BBC News](#) 02 July 2015, [Community Care](#) 26 June 2015

Further information: Community Care: [Community Care: 'The threshold for sexual exploitation feels 10 times higher than for other abuse'](#)

New Publications

As part of a review of progress made under the **Convention on the Rights of the Child**, the UK's 4 children's commissioners have submitted a report to the UN urging the government to reconsider its programme of deep welfare cuts and plans to repeal the Human Rights Act. The commissioners warn that the number of children living in poverty is set to rise to 4.7 million over the next five years. The report also voices 'serious concerns' about children being denied access to justice in the courts.

Source: [Guardian](#) 01 July 2015

Further information: [Report of the UK children's commissioners](#)

The Safeguarding Youth Sport (SYS) project has published a booklet which marks the end of the European SYS project. Its aim was to **safeguard elite young athletes** by improving training and competition conditions. The booklet gathers all information on the project and its results.

Source: [Child Protection in Sport Unit](#) 02 July 2015

HMIC has published three reports related to **child protection**. The first is a summary of findings from 21 inspections of police responses to child protection; the second looks at findings of an inspection into how police deal with children being exploited online; and the third examines how successfully police share information in order to build a picture of criminality. Findings include: over half of police investigations into online child abuse are judged as inadequate or needing improvement.

Source: [HMIC](#) 02 July 2015

Further information: [In harm's way: the role of police in keeping children safe \(PDF\)](#), [Online and on the edge: real risks in a virtual world \(PDF\)](#), [Building the picture: an inspection of police information management, NSPCC press release](#)

The Care Quality Commission has published the results of a national survey representing the **experiences of nearly 19,000 children and young people who received inpatient and day case care in 137 acute NHS trusts in 2014**. Overall, children and parents or carers reported good experience of care. However, findings included: 35% of parents and carers said they were not definitely encouraged to be involved in decisions about their child's care and treatment.

Source: [Care Quality Commission](#) 01 July 2015

The Children's Society has published a report analysing the **challenges facing vulnerable 16-17-year-olds as they transition to adulthood**. Findings include: 16-17-year-olds are more at risk of abuse and neglect at home, sexual exploitation and domestic violence than any other age group, yet there are gaps in legal protection for them and a lack of age appropriate support.

Source: [Children's Society](#) 25 June 2015

Further information: [Seriously awkward: how vulnerable 16-17-year-olds are falling through the cracks: summary \(PDF\)](#), [Seriously awkward: full report \(PDF\)](#)

Other Organisations

Children and Young People Now reports that **Camila Batmanghelidjh has stepped down as chief executive of Kids Company**. She will not leave the organisation, but will assume an advocacy and clinical role once a new chief executive has been appointed.

Source: [Children and Young People Now](#) 03 July 2015

Further information: [Kids Company statement](#)

NSPCC

The **Guardian Social Care Network's new practice hub** launched this month in association with the NSPCC. It will feature innovative case studies of evidence-based practice, the latest research findings, and the wider context of social care policy and practice.

Source: [Guardian](#) 10 July 2015

The Minister for Public Health has written to all NHS Trust chief executives, directors of public health and chairs of clinical commissioning groups across England highlighting the need for extra vigilance with respect to **female genital mutilation (FGM)** as we approach the school summer holidays. She emphasises that NSPCC helpline staff have been trained by FGM health experts to offer 24/7 support to NHS staff on the complex circumstances surrounding FGM. The NSPCC FGM helpline number is 0800 028 3550.

Source: [Department of Health](#) 10 July 2015

The NSPCC has produced a **solution-focused practice toolkit** providing inspiration for worksheets and activities to use, adapt or devise for the children and young people you work with. Developed by practitioners from our Face to Face service, the toolkit is based on our experiences using a solution-focused approach. We have also published a guide to delivering the Face to Face service for children aged 5-18 years who are in care or on the edge of care.

Source: [NSPCC website](#) 10 July 2015

[A guide to implementing the Face to Face service \(PDF\)](#)

Justice Lovell Goddard has opened the **independent inquiry into historical child sexual abuse in England and Wales**. Due to last until 2020, it will investigate: whether institutions have failed to protect children from sexual abuse; whether they have since improved their child protection measures; and what else needs to be done to ensure children's safety. To support the inquiry, the NSPCC has launched a helpline run by trained counsellors for survivors of sexual abuse who wish to give evidence.

Source: [NSPCC press release](#) 09 July 2015

[BBC News](#)

Government

As part of the package of budget announcements, the Chancellor has pledged £30 million for local authorities to speed up the **adoption** process.

Further information: [Summer budget 2015: key announcements](#)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has delivered the 2015 summer budget. He has outlined how he will cut £12bn from the welfare budget. Measures include: limiting support through child tax credit to two children from April 2017; reducing the benefit cap for families from £26,000 to £23,000 in London and £20,000 elsewhere in the UK. Charities are warning these measures will have a detrimental effect on **children and young people in low income families**.

Source: [Children & Young People Now](#) 08 July 2015

Further information: [NSPCC press release. Budget 2015: the good and the bad Summer budget 2015: key announcements](#)

Legal

Ofsted Inspector Adam Higgins, 48, of Saffron Walden, Essex has been jailed for two years for **child grooming and making indecent images of children**.

Source: [BBC News](#) 08 July 2015

The BBC reports that 11,744 cases of so-called **honour crime** were recorded by UK police forces between 2010 and 2014.

Source: [BBC News](#) 09 July 2016

Children and Young People Now report that the Ministry of Justice has announced that 16 and 17-year-olds will receive a mandatory four month custodial sentence the second time they are convicted of a knife offence. Campaigners have warned that the new sentencing rules could result in about **200 more young people in custody**

Source: [Children and Young People Now](#) 03 July 2015

Other Organisations

BAAF are running a campaign to ensure that **private foster carers** are aware of the requirement to notify their local council that they have been looking after someone else's child.

Source: [BAAF](#) 10 July 2015

Children and Young People Now reports that **young offenders** in an institution in Bridgend, Wales will take part in a six-month trial using Skype to communicate with family members, legal advisers, resettlement staff and YOT workers.

Source: [Children & Young People Now](#) 09 July 2015

The Prison Reform Trust has established an independent review, chaired by Lord Laming, to consider why **looked after children** are more likely than other children in England and Wales to get involved with the criminal justice system, and what can be done to help more children in care stay out of trouble. They would like to hear the views of children, young people, families and professionals who have experience of local authority care and the criminal justice system. Deadline for responses is 4 August 2015.

Source: [Prison Reform Trust](#) 25 June 2015

The Children's Commissioner for England has said that **vulnerable young people should be allowed to stay in care until they are 25**. A survey of nearly 3000 young people found that nearly one third felt they had been forced to fend for themselves too early.

Source: [BBC News](#) 08 July 2015

The BBC reports that Coventry University has designed a new app to educate young people about **female genital mutilation**. It is endorsed by the NSPCC and has been launched in the run up to the school summer holidays, a period during which a girl's risk of being taken abroad to undergo the procedure increases.

Source: [BBC News](#) 07 July 2015

Further information: [Coventry University press release](#) [Download Petals web app](#)

Research

A study funded by the Medical Research Council has found that the **tools used to assess if asylum seekers are children** are wrong in more than a third of cases. Three of the methods used to identify markers of physical growth and development, namely x-rays of the hand wrist, MRI scans of the wrist and x-rays of the third molars, are very inaccurate.

Source: [Community Care](#) 03 July 2015

A joint investigation by the NCB, the Children's Society and Children & Young People Now has found that **early intervention funding** was reduced by 55% during the period the coalition was in power.

Source: [Children & Young People Now](#) 06 July 2015

Further information: [Cuts that cost: trends in funding for early intervention services \(PDF\)](#)

A Cambridge University study, commissioned by Centrepoin, has found that **83,241 young people between the ages of 16 and 24 were homeless in 2013-14**. This figure is three times higher than the latest statutory homeless figures compiled by the Department for Communities and Local Government taken from local authority data. They put the figure at 26,852.

Source: [Children & Young People Now](#) 06 July 2015

Further information: [Cambridge University press release Estimating the scale of youth homelessness in the UK: executive summary \(PDF\)](#) [Full report](#)

TV and Radio Programmes

The BBC reports that Police Scotland has released a **rape prevention advert** aimed at young men aged between 16 and 27. The advert aims to challenge male attitudes towards sexual consent

Source: [BBC News](#) 08 July 2015

NSPCC

The NSPCC is calling for bids to conduct research into the long-term **economic consequences of child maltreatment** in the UK. The deadline for submissions is 9 September 2015.

Source: [NSPCC Website](#)

Government

The Department for Education (DfE) has published its response to the Education Select Committee's report on personal, social, health and economic education, and **sex and relationships education** in England. The response emphasises the need to improve the standards of PSHE lessons, but does not agree with the suggestion that PSHE should be made compulsory.

Source: [Department for Education](#) 16 July 2015

Further information: [BBC Online](#) 16 July 2015

Government response: life lessons: PSHE and SRE in schools (PDF).

The Department for Education (DfE) has launched a consultation into **special guardianship orders**. Views are invited on: the assessment process, advice and support for special guardians, examples of best practice and how the use of special guardianship has changed since it was first introduced. The deadline for responses is 18 September 2015

Source: [Department for Education](#) 16 July 2015

Further information: [Special guardianship: a call for views \(PDF\).](#)

The Welsh Government has launched its new five year **suicide and self harm** prevention strategy. The Talk to me to strategy sets out aims and objectives for 2015-2020, including: delivering appropriate responses to personal crises, early intervention and management of suicide and self harm and improving awareness, knowledge and understanding of suicide and self harm.

Source: [Welsh Government](#) 16 July 2015

Further information: [Talk to me 2](#)

Sir Michael Wilshaw, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, has written a letter updating the Secretary of State for Education on the progress of the Birmingham and Tower Hamlets schools subject to targeted inspection in 2014. The letter expresses concern that the **failure to track pupils taken out of school** means an opportunity is being missed to identify children at risk of female genital mutilation, forced marriage, child sexual exploitation and radicalisation.

Source: [Ofsted](#) 14 July 2015

Further information: [Guardian](#) 14 July 2015 [Advice letter from Sir Michael Wilshaw \(PDF\)](#).

Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation have launched a joint consultation on proposed targeted joint **inspections of child protection**. The deadline for submissions is 11 August 2015.

Source: [Gov.uk](#) 15 July 2015

Cafcass has published its monthly **care application statistics** for England. In June 2015, Cafcass received a total of 1,104 care applications, a 25% increase compared to those received in June 2014.

Source: [Cafcass](#)

Legal

Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders came in to force on the 17 July 2015 in England, Northern Ireland and Wales. FGM Protection Orders are unique to each case and contain legally binding conditions, prohibitions and restrictions to protect the person at risk of FGM.

Source: [Family Law](#) 17 July 2015

Further information: [NSPCC Website](#)

New Publications

The National Audit Office has published a report looking at the system for supporting **young people leaving care** in England. Findings include: there is no reliable information to monitor the lives of care leavers over time, support for care leavers varies widely between local authorities and examples of good practice are not developed or shared well enough nationally.

Source: [National Audit Office \(NAO\)](#) 17 July 2015

Further information: [Care leavers' transition to adulthood \(PDF\)](#).

Deloitte have published a **stocktake of youth offending teams (YOTs)** in England and Wales, commissioned by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). Findings include: The YOT system enables holistic interagency work which takes account of young people's wider needs, however the MoJ only measures outcomes around offending behaviour. Recommendations include: create new performance measures to capture broader desired outcomes and consider introducing a national Youth Justice worker accreditation scheme.

Source: [Children & Young People Now](#) 16 July 2015

Further information: [Youth offending team stocktake \(PDF\)](#), 15 July 2015 [Ministry of Justice \(MoJ\)](#) 15 July 2015

The Department for Education has published statistics on **child death reviews** completed in England between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015. Findings include 3,515 reviews were completed by Child Death Overview Panels in the year ending 31 March 2015, of which 24% were identified as having modifiable factors.

Source: [Department for Education](#) Department for Education (DfE) 16 July 2015

Further information: [Child death reviews: year ending March 2015 \(PDF\)](#).

Action for Children has published new research into how best to support vulnerable young people to **manage their money**. Recommendations include: the work of the Money Advice Service should explicitly acknowledge the additional vulnerabilities of some young people, the government should consider making financial skills part of employment and training programmes, and frontline bank staff should understand how best to work with vulnerable young people.

Source: [Action for Children](#) 14 July 2015

Further information: [Getting a fair deal? How to help vulnerable young people manage their money \(PDF\)](#).

Ofsted has published statistics on **children looked after** in England at 31 March 2014. The figures show that there were 68,554 children looked after at 31 March 2014, an increase of 1% on the previous year (67,886).

Source: [Ofsted Press Release](#) 14 July 2015

Further information: [Children looked after placements by English local authority \(PDF\)](#) 13 July 2015

Barnardo's has published a new report about the benefits of allowing parents to **register their child's birth** via children's centres. Positive outcomes identified by families and practitioners, who use or run a birth registration service in a children's centre, include: active engagement with hard to reach families, a means of collecting data and identifying the support needs of vulnerable parents

Source: [Barnardos](#) 13 July 2015

Further information: [Fulfilling their potential: the 'win-win' case for birth registrations in Children's Centres \(PDF\)](#).

Other Organisations

Good Corporation has published findings from its review into the BBC's **child protection and whistleblowing policies**. Recommendations include: reinforce and consistently apply existing policies and processes and strengthen formal internal and external reporting lines.

Source: [BBC Online](#) 14 July 2015

Further information: [Review of the BBC whistleblowing and child protection policies and processes \(PDF\)](#).

Research

The Office for Public Management has published a review of international comparisons of **child sexual exploitation**. Findings include: there was widespread recognition of the complexity of child sexual exploitation, that it had been an under-reported problem and that services need to provide a more effective response.

Source: [Office for Public Management \(OPM\)](#) 10 July 2015

Further information: [Child sexual exploitation: a study of international comparisons \(PDF\)](#).

TV and Radio Programmes

The Nature of Paedophilia. BBC Radio 4 documentary discusses the latest scientific research on **paedophilia**. Available on BBC iPlayer.

Source: [BBC Online](#) 13 July 2015

Conferences

NOTA annual international conference

This conference, organised by the National Organisation for the Treatment of Abusers (NOTA), takes place on 16 - 18 September 2015.

Source: [National Organisation for the Treatment of Abusers \(NOTA\)](#)

NSPCC Training

Safeguarding Romanian Children: Improving Cross Border Collaboration

These training events, organised by the NSPCC's Child Trafficking Advice Centre (CTAC), take place on 8 September 2015 in London and 9 September 2015 in Leicester. For more information [email CTAC](#).

Source: [Child Trafficking Advice Centre \(CTAC\)](#)

Further information: [ICARUS knowledge hub](#)

Bullying

Journal Articles

How to talk to parents about their child's bullying behaviour.

Summary:

Discusses an approach to talking to parents about their child's bullying behaviour at school. Acknowledges that this is a difficult situation for teachers and parents. Goes through how to Explain the situation, discuss why the pupil is Acting this way, move on to talking about Repercussions of the bullying behaviour and finally look for Solutions together. The EARS approach is available as a photocopiable handout.

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: primary edition (No.2) May 2015 pp 62

Authors: Steve Baker

Child abuse and neglect

Journal Articles

The truth about neglect.

Summary:

Reports on a session on child neglect in a recent Optimus Education Protecting Children Update conference. The author points out that parental mental health issues, domestic abuse, and some environmental factors may increase the likelihood of neglect. Also points out that children with disabilities may be more prone to being neglected. Concludes with the suggestion to use a child-focused framework to assess neglect as recommended by Action on Neglect. Urges schools to consider their child protection plans so that they can accurately identify and act on all forms of child abuse.

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: primary edition (No.2) May 2015 pp. 66

Authors: Andrew Hall

Child and family services

Journal Articles

Fostering innovation.

Summary: Looks at examples of innovative practice in foster care in England. Briefly discusses key statistics and issues such as the difficulties in recruiting foster carers. Highlights practice inspired by overseas models including the NSPCC's New Orleans programme and the Fostering Network's use of social pedagogy. Provides more detail about a pilot scheme to establish "hub homes" of specially trained and recruited foster carers and BAAF's intensive fostering scheme which is used as an alternative to custody.

Publication details: Children and young people now 26 May - 8 June 2015 pp 22-24

Authors: Charlotte Goddard

Reducing risk: families in wraparound intervention.

Summary: Outlines a case study of 308 children focusing on an intervention that uses a wraparound approach early during family stress or crisis to prevent a child's entry in to the child care system. Looks at the extent to which children with family members on the intervention can experience a reduction of the risk of child maltreatment recidivism six months after receiving the intervention. Finds that children whose caregivers completed the intervention experienced less maltreatment than those in a comparison group of similarly situated children.

Publication details: Families in society (Vol.96, No.2) 2015 pp 91-98

Authors: Andrew J. Schneider-Munoz, Rose Ann M. Renteria, Jesse Gelwicks and Matthew E. Fasano

Child health, development and welfare

Books

Cognitive-behavioral strategies in crisis intervention.

Summary: Outlines ways in which cognitive-behavioural interventions can help people experiencing psychological crises. Provides an overview of crisis intervention, the need for short-term effective treatments and highlights the clinical symptoms often encountered. Discusses child sexual abuse looking at its impact, recognition and reporting. Features a guide to practice offering suggestions on how to help a child and their family following disclosure. Includes chapters covering domestic violence, families in crisis, anger and aggression in children and adolescents as well as looking at the legal and ethical issues in

crisis intervention.

Publication details: New York ; London: Guilford Press, 2010

ISBN: 9781606236482

Shelf mark: QES ISR R

Authors: Frank M. Dattilio and Arthur Freeman

Mastering public health: a postgraduate guide to examinations and revalidation.

Summary: Study aid for students preparing for postgraduate, masters and higher exams in public health, and a definitive guide for the Part A examination for Membership of the Faculty of Public Health (MFPH). Covers the five key areas of public health knowledge including: research methods; disease causation and diagnosis; health information; social policy and health economics; and the organisation and management of healthcare and healthcare programmes. Includes a chapter on skills tested in Part A of the MFPH examination and provides guidance on revision strategies, exam techniques and essay frameworks.

Publication details: London: CRC Press, 2015

ISBN: 9781444152692

Shelf mark: HJC

Authors: Geraint Lewis, Jessica Sheringham, Jamie Lopez Bernal and Tim Crayford

Reading and expressive writing with traumatised children, young refugees and asylum seekers: unpack my heart with words.

Summary: Looks at how literature can be used to help young asylum seekers and refugees who have been victims of violence overcome their experiences. Explores how the process of reading, discussing and rewriting selected texts can have a therapeutic impact. Looks at the use of images, symbols and metaphors to access trauma and the therapeutic use of dreams, fairy tales and myths. Considers the approaches and processes involved in implementing biblio/narrative therapy. Discusses the importance of ethics and good practice, cultural sensitivity and the role of the facilitator.

Publication details: London: Jessica Kingsley, 2014

ISBN: 9781849053846

Shelf mark: QGI CEE

Authors: Marion Baraitser

**Child protection
Books**

[How safe are our children?: the most comprehensive overview of child protection in the UK.](#)

Summary: Compiles child protection data from government statistics and research findings to measure the extent of abuse and neglect in all four nations of the UK. Sets out 20 indicators covering: child deaths; recorded abuse offences; self-reported abuse; child protection actions; contacts with ChildLine and the NSPCC helpline; and public attitudes. Prominent trends show: an increase in recorded sexual offences against children and an increase in contacts to the NSPCC about sexual abuse in 2014-15; neglect remained the most common form of maltreatment; and the number of children dying as a result of homicide or assault remained in long term decline. Concludes that more support is needed for victims; tackling neglect should remain a priority; and early intervention is key to preventing abuse and neglect.

Publication details: [London]: NSPCC, 2015

ISBN:

Shelf mark: QLJ JAC K

Authors: Sonja Jutte, Holly Bentley, Dan Tallis, Julia Mayes, Natasha Jetha, O'Hagan Orla, Helen Brookes and Nicola McConnell

Journal Articles

Five ways to tackle child sexual exploitation.

Summary: Discusses some ways schools can tackle child sexual exploitation (CSE). Assesses a range of resources created by Optimus Education to train school staff to recognise, raise awareness and prevent CSE. Describes a webinar and downloads from Ann Raymond, 'Identifying and managing sexual exploitation: the responsibilities of schools and local authorities'. Goes on to describe a training course devised by Ann Raymond to support schools, 'Sexual exploitation and grooming', which comes in two units. All resources discussed are viewable on Optimus Education website.

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: primary edition (No.2) May 2015 pp 60-61
Corporate authors: Optimus Education

Grooming drama helps educate children at risk.

Summary: Brief case study of 'Working for Marcus', an educational theatre programme about child sexual exploitation delivered in secondary schools by Loudmouth. It follows the story of a 14-year-old girl who develops an online relationship and is groomed by an older man. Reports on findings of an internal evaluation of the programme, including how it has successfully encouraged disclosures.

Publication details: Children and young people now 26 May - 8 June 2015 pp 14-15

Corporate authors: Centre of Excellence for Information Sharing

Childcare and early years

Books

Applying implementation science in early childhood programs and settings.

Summary: Presents a definition of implementation science and outlines the key components needed to implement and sustained changes in early childhood programmes and systems. Argues that to ensure sustained changes interventions must be implemented effectively and consistently over time. Explores how the area of implementation science can help to close the research-to -practice gap in early childhood programmes and systems. Includes a five-step model for assessing the fidelity of interventions as well as guidance on replicating and scaling up early childhood programmes.

Publication details: Baltimore: Paul Brookes, 2013

ISBN: 9781598572827

Shelf mark: QLE AWV T

Authors: Tamara Halle, Alison Metz and Ivelisse Martinez-Beck

Domestic violence

Journal Articles

A domestic violence shelter parent training program for mothers with young children.

Summary: Reports on a programme for eight mother and child pairs living in a shelter for women that have experienced domestic violence. The mothers participated in a programme modelled on the Child Directed Interaction (CDI) component of Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT). This studied the mothers' abilities to learn and practice new parenting skills while they were in the shelter. Finds that a combination of individual and group sessions was a successful method to improve the way mothers communicated with their children.

Publication details: Journal of family violence (Vol.30, No.4) May 2015 pp 461-466

Authors: Brooks R. Keeshin, Amy Oxman, Sheryl Schindler and Kristine A. Campbell

Families and parenting

Journal Articles

Childhood adversities and adult use of potentially injurious physical discipline in Japan.

Summary: Examines the intergenerational continuity of potentially injurious physical discipline of children in a community sample in Japan. Uses data from the World Mental Health Japan Survey which found that the experience of physical discipline as children was associated with the use of physical discipline as parents. This association was independent of other childhood adversities, mental disorders and household income. Reports that the findings are consistent with similar studies on the intergenerational transmission of child physical abuse in other countries.

Publication details: Journal of family violence (Vol.30, No.4) May 2015 pp 515-527

Authors: Maki Umeda, Norito Kawakami, Ronald C. Kessler and Elizabeth Miller

Corporate authors: World Mental Health Japan Survey Group 2002-2006

Internet safety

Books

Minding minors wandering the web: regulating online child safety.

Summary: Looks at regulation and the law in protecting children online. Explores the difficulties in safeguarding children on the Internet alongside protecting their rights and the need to let them explore, learn and have fun. Chapters include: children's rights online; using technology to regulate online behaviour; data protection and privacy; the right to be forgotten online; cyberbullying; and online grooming.

Publication details: The Hague: Asser Press, 2014

ISBN: 9789462650046

Shelf mark: QLJ JAT SME

Authors: Simone van der Hof, Bibi van den Berg and Bart Schermer

Offenders

Journal Articles

[An exploration of protective factors supporting desistance from sexual offending.](#)

Summary: Considers factors that support desistance from sexual offending in those who have previously offended. Reviews the literature on protective factors supporting desistance and discusses the value of incorporating protective factors into the risk assessment process. Proposes eight potential protective domains: healthy sexual interests; a capacity for emotional intimacy; constructive social networks; goal directed living; good problem solving; employment; sobriety; and an optimistic attitude to desistance.

Publication details: Sexual abuse (Vol.27, No.1) February 2015 pp 16-33

Authors: Michiel de Vries Robbé, Ruth E. Mann, Shadd Maruna and David Thornton

[Introduction to the special issue on factors positively associated with desistance for adolescents and adults who have sexually offended.](#)

Summary: Introduces a special issue on factors that impact on desistance from child sexual abuse in adolescents and adult child sex offenders that have already offended. Points out that although progress has been made in developing tools for risk assessment, research into desistance lags behind. Overviews the research methods and theories of each of the articles in the special issue.

Publication details: Sexual abuse (Vol.27, No.1) February 2015 pp 3-15

Authors: Calvin M. Langton and James R. Worling

[Protective strengths, risk and recidivism in a sample of known sexual offenders.](#)

Summary: Examines the relationship between protective factors and risks as assessed by the Inventory of Offender Risk, Needs and Strengths (IORN) of re-offending in 110 adult male sex offenders completing a prison based treatment programme. Finds that approximately 40 per cent of the sample re-offended in some way within the following 6-years. Reports that self-perceived ability to make better decisions, control temper, take part in education and employment and presence of social support all served to reduce the likelihood of sexual recidivism.

Publication details: Sexual abuse (Vol.27, No.1) February 2015 pp 34-50

Authors: Holly Miller

Youth involvement in anti-gay and anti-lesbian bias crimes.

Summary: Describes research into young people who commit sexual orientation bias crimes. Examines data from the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations (LACCHR) 2002-2008 on 894 sexual orientation motivated bias crimes, of which 12 per cent was committed by young people. Describes the characteristics of the hate crimes when perpetrated by young people compared with adults. Observes that young people were more likely to act in groups, be involved in vandalism and target other young people.

Publication details: Violence and victims (Vol.30, No.2) 2015 pp 308-321

Authors: Rebecca L. Stotzer

Sexual abuse

Books

Summary: Autobiographical account of childhood sexual abuse. The author, a concert pianist, explores his relationship with classical music and the therapeutic powers of music more generally. Author recounts his experiences of early abuse, self-harm, suicide ideation, addiction and psychiatric hospitalisation.

Publication details: Edinburgh ; London: Canongate, 2015

ISBN: 9781782113379

Shelf mark: QLJ J95

Authors: James Rhodes

The physical signs of child sexual abuse: an evidence-based review and guidance for best practice.

Summary: Aimed at health professionals working in the field of child protection, reviews evidence on the physical signs of child sexual abuse (CSA). Chapters cover: genital signs of sexual abuse in girls; genital bleeding in prepubertal girls; anal signs of CSA; genital signs of CSA in boys; anogenital signs of accidental injuries; and sexually transmitted infections. Includes a section on good practice covering paediatric forensic examinations, consent, photo-documentation and female genital mutilation. Findings are based on the best available evidence as at March 2014.

Publication details: London: Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), 2015

Shelf mark: QLJ KHD F

[Preventing child sexual abuse: towards a national strategy for England.](#)

Summary: Argues that child sexual abuse is a public health issue and that framing it in this way allows for a collaborative, coordinated and determined national response. Presents effective programmes and interventions covering: education for children and parents; support and guidance for professionals; community action such as bystander interventions; online safety; and help for people who are struggling with feelings and have not yet committed abuse. Considers what a national strategy for England should aim for and what it might look like. Puts forward some initial actions for government, schools, parents, voluntary sector, communities, media and industry

Publication details: [London]: NSPCC, 2015

Authors: Jon Brown and Aliya Saied-Tessier

Social care

Journal Articles

DfE urged to focus on social work training and care placements.

Summary: Looks at the priorities of the Department for Education (DfE) following on from the general election in May 2015. Outlines calls from some children's services leaders for the DfE to do more to help stabilise and improve the children's social care workforce. Also looks at the argument that the DfE should support all forms of care permanence rather than prioritising adoption

Publication details: Children and young people now 26 May - 8 June 2015 pp 8-9

Authors: Derren Hayes

Expressive arts in supervision: choosing developmentally appropriate interventions.

Summary: Describes the use of expressive arts in supervision while taking in to consideration the professional developmental level of the supervisee. Outlines the goals of supervision and supervisor skills. Describes expressive arts and its use in various interventions and therapeutic purposes including play therapy. Looks at how expressive arts techniques can be used to help supervisees communicate with supervisors in a different way, encouraging empathic understanding. Considers the ethical considerations to be addressed before using expressive arts activities.

Authors: Katherine E. Purswell and Hayley L. Stulmaker

Bullying

Journal Articles

How to talk to parents about their child's bullying behaviour.

Summary: Discusses an approach for teachers to talking to parents about their child's bullying behaviour at secondary school. Acknowledges that this is a difficult situation for both teachers and parents. Goes through the EARS approach - Explain the situation, discuss why the pupil is Acting this way, move on to talking about Repercussions and look for Solutions together. The EARS approach is available as a photocopyable handout. Mirrors the method described for use in a primary school setting.

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: secondary edition (No. 2) May 2015 pp 62-63

Authors: Steve Baker

Responding to incidents of bullying: training activity

Summary: Step-by-step training activity for schools on responding to prejudice-based bullying. Based on a fictional case of Nathan who is being bullied by another boy because he thinks Nathan is gay. Suitable for use by both primary and secondary schools

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: primary edition (No.3) July 2015 pp 62-64

Authors: Elizabeth Smith

Child abuse and neglect

Books

[Child death reviews: year ending March 2015.](#)

Summary: Provides figures on child death reviews which have been completed by Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) in England between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015. Reports 3,515 reviews were completed by Child Death Overview Panels (CDOPs) and 24 per cent of these were assessed as having factors which were preventable or potentially preventable. Includes details on age, gender and cause of death. Reports that serious case reviews were carried out for 2 per cent of all deaths reviewed in the year.

Publication details: [London]: Department for Education (DfE)

Corporate authors: Department for Education

Saving Safa: rescuing a little girl from FGM.

Summary: Autobiographical account of the author's fight to stop the female genital mutilation (FGM) of a 7-year-old Somalian girl, Safa. Safa's parents signed a contract with the author's Desert Flower Foundation stating that they would never subject their daughter to FGM. However several years later, Safa's mother thinks her daughter should be circumcised to stop their community from ostracising them

Publication details: London: Virago Press, 2015

ISBN: 9780349005966

Shelf mark: HXH VGL

Authors: Waris Dirie

[Supplement to the Wanless/Whittam review.](#)

Summary: Review of additional Cabinet Office files that should have been submitted to the inquiry: 'An independent review of two Home Office commissioned independent reviews looking at information held in connection with child abuse from 1979-1999' (Wanless and Whittam, 2014). Concludes these files do not change the findings from the original inquiry. Stresses the late discovery of files is detrimental to public confidence in the review. Includes a statement made by the Home Secretary to the House of Commons about the files and letters from the Home Office explaining how the files were found.

Publication details: [London]: Home Office, 2015

Authors: Peter Wanless and Richard Whittam

Journal Articles

Five ways to tackle child sexual exploitation.

Summary: Describes some Optimus Education resources for school staff to tackle child sexual exploitation (CSE). One webinar provides advice on developing policies and procedures on how to speak to parents about CSE. Another webinar seeks to raise the awareness of school pupils of the signs and risks of grooming and sexual exploitation. The 'Sexual exploitation and grooming', training course is

aimed at all school staff and looks at working with multi-agency safeguarding partners, information sharing and referrals to social services. Links to these resources are available through Optimus Education Knowledge Centre.

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: secondary edition May 2015 pp 64-65

Corporate authors: Optimus Education

Handling forced marriage.

Summary: Offers advice to school staff, taken from guidance produced by The Forced Marriage Unit, on how to identify if forced marriage is likely to occur and how to handle it. Advice includes being aware of changes in pupil behaviour and being vigilant about security within the school. Provides a suggested advice card for pupils to give to a friend about whom they may be worried.

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: secondary edition (No. 2) May 2015 p 66

Authors: Carol Smith

[In the best interests of the child: preventing female genital cutting \(FGC\).](#)

Summary: Overview of international literature exploring Female Genital Cutting (FGC). Addresses: the prevalence of FGC; its cultural and social origins; effective prevention strategies; legislative responses; and education and health promotion programmes. Argues that practitioners in Western countries should be equipped to assist practising communities to recognise the harm of FGC and to change attitudes and practices. Explores culturally sensitive strategies for social workers to engage and work with families affected by FGC.

Publication details: British journal of social work (Vol.45, No.4) June 2015 pp 1259-1276

Authors: Susie Costello, Marjorie Quinn, Allison Tatchell, Lynne Jordan and Koula Neophytou

[Parent and child agreement on experience of potential traumatic events.](#)

Summary: Longitudinal Swedish study exploring parent and child reports of trauma. Reports on responses to the Life Incidence of Traumatic Events (LITE) questionnaire from 1174 children, 875 mothers and 601 fathers, completed when the children were 12-years-old. Finds that agreement was low across most types of trauma reported and agreement was lower when the trauma was interpersonal. Highlights how a lack of parental recognition of trauma is likely to result in a failure to seek intervention and consequently poorer outcomes for the child. Emphasises the importance of seeking information directly from children.

Publication details: Child abuse review (Vol.24, No.3) May-June 2015 pp 170-181

Authors: Sylvia Tingskull, Carl Göran Svedin, Sara Agnafors, Linda deKeyser, Gunilla Sydsjö and Doris Nilsson

[Risk and protective factors for physical and emotional abuse victimisation amongst vulnerable children in South Africa.](#)

Summary: Investigates risk and protective factors for severe physical and emotional abuse amongst a cross-sectional community sample of 603 South African 13-19-year-olds. Factors associated with severe physical and emotional abuse included: poverty, AIDS-related stigma, bullying, school non-attendance, family conflict, sexual abuse and living with a step-parent. Highlights the lack of research into risk and protective factors for physical and emotional child abuse in South Africa and a need for further research on the relationship between child abuse and caregivers with AIDS sickness.

Publication details: Child abuse review (Vol.24, No.3) May-June 2015 pp 182-197

Authors: Franziska Meinck, Lucie D. Cluver, Mark E. Boyes and Lodrick D. Ndhlovu

Child and family services

Books

[Children looked after placements by English local authorities.](#)

Summary: Presents information about the age, gender and ethnicity, of all children looked after on 31 March 2014. Finds that 68,554 children and young people were looked after by 151 English local authorities, an increase of 668 children on the previous year. Includes data about where all children looked after were living on 31 March 2014, including how far from their placing local authority they were living, the type of placement and how long they had been there. Finds that 51,301 of children were fostered, 6,093 were in children's homes and 3,561 were placed for adoption

Publication details: Ofsted, 2015
Corporate authors: OFSTED

[Placement disruption: a review of cases of children in care in England and Wales where stable placements are threatened for financial reasons.](#)

Summary: Findings from a survey examining whether stable foster placements for children have been disrupted to cut costs. Of 19 responses by foster carers, nine said decisions had been made or plans changed for financially driven reasons. Looks at the statutory responsibilities of local authorities, Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) and foster services in care planning. Sets out actions that can be taken by a social worker, carer or child to protect the interests of children when changes to care are proposed.

Publication details: London: Nationwide Association of Fostering Providers (NAFP), 2015
Authors: Jon Fayle and Harvey Gallagher

Journal Articles

['Coping with Crying': an innovative new programme to support positive parenting and prevent child abuse.](#)

Summary: Describes Coping with Crying, a programme aimed at reducing non-accidental head injuries through helping new parents to develop coping strategies. Outlines the development of the programme, which involves showing parents a psycho-educational film to raise awareness of the risks of shaking babies and promote positive coping strategies. Reports on results from an initial evaluation, including: 99 per cent of parents who took part in the programme remembered watching the film; and 82 per cent of parents reported having used at least one of the tips suggested by the film. Discusses future plans for the programme.

Publication details: International journal of birth and parent education (Vol.2, No.4) Summer 2015 pp 29-32
Authors: Peter Richards

[Antenatal young parents: introducing a pathway to enhance health visiting practice.](#)

Summary: Outlines the development of a health visiting practice pathway for young parents in the Humber Foundation NHS Trust area. Highlights research amongst this disadvantaged group around prevalence of domestic violence, infant mortality, poverty and child maltreatment. Potential challenges identified in delivering the pathway include issues engaging with fathers and partners. Argues that health visitors should use their skills of early intervention and partnership working to improve the health and wellbeing of young parents and their children.

Publication details: Community practitioner (Vo.88, No.7) July 2015 pp 37-40
Authors: Lisa Jennison

[Child welfare activities targeting single mothers on social assistance: a study of child welfare interventions and case managers' referrals in a Swedish sample.](#)

Summary: Uses data from nearly 900 single mothers on social assistance (SA) in Sweden to examine the prevalence of child welfare interventions and factors making an intervention more likely. Finds that social services were more likely to become involved in families with: maternal social and mental conditions; more than one child; and persistent SA dependency.

Publication details: British journal of social work (Vol.45, No.4) June 2015 pp 1224-1241
Authors: Hugo Stranz and Stefan Wiklund

Child health, development and welfare

Books

[Reducing infant mortality in London: an evidence-based resource.](#)

Summary: Describes what research tells us about the risk factors for infant mortality and what prevention strategies work. Analyses data on the rates and economic impact of infant mortality for London. Looks in detail at risk factors covering: child poverty; teenage pregnancy; access to antenatal care; smoking in pregnancy; maternal and infant nutrition; sudden unexpected deaths in infancy (SUDI); and vaccinations.

Publication details: London: Public Health England, 2015

Authors: Marilena Korkodilos

[Seriously awkward: how vulnerable 16-17 year olds are falling through the cracks.](#)

Summary: Explores the challenges facing 16-17-year-olds and what makes them particularly vulnerable. Based on analysis of official data and the longitudinal Understanding Society study; analysis of a poll of 1,004 16-17-year-olds and their parents and a comparison group of 1,000 10-17-year-olds; interviews with practitioners; and consultation with young people. Finds: 16-17-year-olds are more at risk of abuse and neglect at home, sexual exploitation and abuse from their partners than any other age group; and that gaps and inconsistencies in UK law leave 16-17-year-olds unprotected. Recommendations include: increased and more flexible services; and greater participation of young people.

Publication details: [London]: Children's Society, 2015

Authors: Iryna Pona, Sam Royston, Clare Bracey and Amy Gibbs

The colour thief: a family's story of depression.

Summary: Illustrated children's book about one boy's experience of his father's depression, comparing it to a world drained of colour. Acknowledges the feelings of helplessness that young children might experience when coping with parental illness and helps them to understand that they are not to blame. Highlights the distance that mental health problems can drive between families but also offers reassurance and hope. For use with 4-8-year-olds.

Publication details: London: Wayland, 2014

ISBN: 9780750280532

Shelf mark: QLK WMN

Authors: Andrew Fusek Peters and Polly Peters

Journal Articles

Understanding self-harm: training activity.

Summary: Describes a training activity aimed at teachers in secondary schools to raise their awareness and understanding of self harm by pupils. Steps within the training session look at what self harm is and is not, risks for suicide and the self harm cycle. Provides a link to continue the training and access practical ideas for breaking the cycle.

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: secondary edition (No.2) May 2015 pp 60-61

Authors: Pooky Knightsmith

Child protection

Books

[Building the picture: an inspection of police information management.](#)

Summary: Inspection into how police forces in England and Wales collect, record, process, evaluate, share and dispose of information. Conducted as a result of findings in 'Mistakes were made', that reviewed police failings in sharing and recording allegations related to Jimmy Savile (HMIC, 2013). Analyses findings from a self-assessment survey completed by all 43 forces and three days of fieldwork in 13 forces. Identifies local variations in practice leading to a risk of failings in information sharing. Recommendations include all forces to review their policies and practice to ensure they comply with the Authorised Professional Practice on information management.

Publication details: [London]: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), 2015

ISBN: 9781782468172

Corporate authors: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC)

[Review of the BBC whistleblowing and child protection policies and processes.](#)

Summary: Conclusions from a review of the BBC's child protection and whistleblowing policies. Tests and examines the BBC's child protection policies against 49 criteria and its whistleblowing policies against 25 criteria. Finds that the BBC's whistleblowing policy was ranked at number 12 in a list of 40 organisations. Includes recommendations to help strengthen child protection and safeguarding policy and systems.

Publication details: BBC, 2015
Corporate authors: BBC

Journal Articles

Councils struggle to meet rise in demand for child protection.

Summary: Investigates the rise in numbers of children in care and on child protection plans between March 2014 and March 2015. Freedom of Information requests to local authorities show that in those that responded, children in care have increased 1.26 per cent, children on protection plans increased by 7.36 and section 47 enquiries increased by 11.78 per cent. Describes which local authorities showed the largest increases. Concludes with a concern for adolescents who may not be receiving the same level of intervention as younger children.

Publication details: Children and young people now 23 June - 6 July 2015 pp 10-11

Authors: Neil Puffett

Domestic violence

Journal Articles

[Domestic violence and voluntary perpetrator programmes: engaging men in the pre-commencement phase.](#)

Summary: Looks at why interventions aimed at male perpetrators of domestic abuse suffer from low levels of referrals/self-referral and high drop-out rates. Examines trends from two multi-agency interventions to identify key reasons for lack of male engagement, including: work with perpetrators was not within the remit of partner agencies; work with perpetrators was from a criminal justice perspective; agencies working with families focused on mothers and children; and female practitioners felt unsafe engaging with perpetrators. Concludes that programmes should engage with perpetrators earlier in the intervention and that social workers need more training in working with perpetrators.

Publication details: British journal of social work (Vol.45, No.4) June 2015 pp 1155-1171

Authors: Catherine Donovan and Sue Griffiths

Harmful sexual behaviour

[Community reactions to young people who have sexually abused and their families: a shotgun blast, not a rifle shot.](#)

Summary: Examines data on 117 young people with sexually harmful behaviour, to investigate the nature of community responses to young people's abusive behaviour. Common community responses included stigmatisation and social isolation. Reports that some young offenders and their families were attacked and forced out of their homes. Community responses sometimes heightened risk factors. Discusses policy and practice implications, including the need for caution about the inclusion of children in policies on community notification of sex offenders.

Publication details: Children and society (Vol.29, Iss.4) July 2015 pp 243-254

Authors: Simon Hackett, Helen Masson, Myles Balfe and Josie Phillips

Research methodology

Journal Articles

[Rights, responsibilities and pragmatic practice: family participation in case reviews.](#)

Summary: Explores family participation in the case review process. Examines published policy guidance across the UK; professional attitudes and practice; and family experiences. Finds that family involvement is an expectation in all four UK nations but there is limited practice guidance. Suggests that while family perspectives add invaluable insight, dilemmas exist in involving perpetrators in the research and about the 'deserved' nature of participation. Argues that the variable picture of family involvement in the UK reflects uncertainty about the purpose, value and role of family participation.

Publication details: Child abuse review (Vol.24, No.3) May-June 2015 pp 198-209

Authors: Kate Morris, Marian Brandon and Paul Tudor

Schools and education

Journal Articles

Keeping children safe in education 2015.

Summary: Summarises key updates required to school safeguarding policies according to the UK Government's revised statutory guidance (Keeping children safe in education, 2015). Briefly covers: referrals; whistleblowing; vetting and barring checks; The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015; information sharing; and identifying and reporting child abuse.

Publication details: Optimus Education insight: primary edition (No.3) pp 65-66

Corporate authors: Optimus Education

Sexual abuse

Books

[Child sexual exploitation: a study of international comparisons.](#)

Summary: Presents the results of an evidence collection and desk review of international comparisons of child sexual exploitation (CSE) in high income countries. Looks at how CSE is defined in selected countries including Sweden, Ireland, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the USA. Considers the extent to which there is consistency in the response of agencies around the world to CSE and what the UK can learn from the experience elsewhere. Concludes that UK structures are probably more established and systematic than those found in most countries with the possible exception of Sweden.

Publication details: Nottingham: Virtual Staff College, 2015

Authors: David N Jones and Anton Florek

Corporate authors: Office for Public Management

[Online and on the edge: real risks in a virtual world: an inspection into how forces deal with the online sexual exploitation of children.](#)

Summary: Findings from a review of 124 cases and interviews with police officers and staff in England and Wales about sexual exploitation, facilitated and enabled by the internet. Highlights a gap between police force priorities and practice on the ground. Finds: missed opportunities to investigate risks to other victims beyond an initial case; and backlogs in forensic analysis of computers resulting in offenders being released on bail. Highlights examples of good practice including advice and guidance for parents and carers. Recommendations include: using websites and social media channels to talk directly to children.

Publication details: [London]: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), 2015

ISBN: 9781782468189

Corporate authors: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC)

This year the NSPCC has added a new course to our National training programme in Leicester. Achieving best evidence.

This training course is aimed at police officers and social workers who undertake joint interviews of children and vulnerable adults as part of a criminal investigation.

The course has been developed in line with Ministry of Justice and ACPO guidance and will enhance your understanding of legislation relating to interviewing vulnerable witnesses and children.

For further information on the course aims and objectives, dates and how to book, please click on the following link:

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/get-expert-training/achieving-best-evidence/>

Further information

Action for Children - Research, resources and information

<http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/policy-research>

Barnardos - Research and information including fact sheets

[http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what we do/policy_research_unit/research_and_publications.htm](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/policy_research_unit/research_and_publications.htm)

Sign up for regular Newsletter: http://www.barnardos.org.uk/email_subscription_form.htm

Community Care - News, information and research <http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Home/>

Sign up for regular Newsletter: <https://www.communitycare.co.uk/Register/registermain/>

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Boards' Procedures (staff can register to be alerted on updates) <http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/contents.html>

National Children's Bureau - Policy, research and information

National Working Group Network (NWG) – tackling child sexual exploitation

<http://www.nwgnetwork.org/>

National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

The Government's National Referral Mechanism guidance and referral forms can be accessed at the link below. The referral and assessment forms should be used to report potential victims of human trafficking

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms>

NSPCC Inform - Child protection advice, support, information, factsheets and research

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/informhub_wda49931.html

NSPCC CASPAR - Current awareness service for policy, practice and research: regular mail outs for updates and information.

Sign up for the news service by following this link:

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/ExternalNewsServices/Default.aspx?NewsServiceID=2>

Office of the Children's Commissioner for England

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

Research in Practice - Research, information and resources to support evidence informed practice

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

(Leicester City Council employees can register using their work email address)

The final report of the Office of the Children's Commissioner's **Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups** (November 2013)

http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/publications/content_743

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http://www.trixonline.co.uk/website/news/news_index.html