



# Children in Wales

Bi-weekly e-briefing for Members

Thursday 9 April 2020

Issue 6

[@Childreninwales](#)

[www.childreninwales.org.uk](http://www.childreninwales.org.uk)

[/childreninwales](#)

## Introduction

To keep our members up to date with the ever changing circumstances, our members' e-briefing will now be released twice a week rather than weekly. Through this we hope to distribute relevant updates on the impact of Covid-19, as well as other relevant news.

## Children in Wales News

In accordance with Government and PHW advice, all Children in Wales staff are working from home until further notice and the offices in Cardiff and Bangor are closed. However, we are still working. Find out more, and how to contact us [here](#).

### New resource produced - Wellbeing during Coronavirus

The resource has been produced as part of the Getting Ready project, and is aimed at care experienced young people or any young person looking for advice or support during the outbreak. [You can download the resource here](#).

## Useful Links

[A daily statement](#) by Public Health Wales on the Covid-19 outbreak can be found on their website. They have also released a number of useful resources and guidance that can be found here: <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>

Welsh Government have a dedicated webpage for advice, news and resources on the Covid-19 outbreak that can be found here: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

The Children's Commissioner for Wales website now has an information hub for information and advice and can be found here: <https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/coronavirus/>

NHS Direct have launched an online symptom checker that can be found on their website: <https://www.nhsdirect.wales.nhs.uk/SelfAssessments/symptomcheckers/>

[Money Saving Expert](#) is producing financial advice guides online on subject matters including Mortgages & other debts, rental help, energy top-ups & more.

[COVID-19 Safeguarding Children - Bi-lingual-Information for display](#)

[Welsh Government safeguarding information for practitioners](#)

Support for victims of Domestic Abuse - The Live Fear Free helpline is available 24 hours a day – call free on 0808 8010 800 any time, if you can do it safely. You can also text 0786 007 7333, email [info@livefearfreehelpline.wales](mailto:info@livefearfreehelpline.wales) or webchat - <https://gov.wales/live-fear-free/contact-live-fear-free>. If you can't talk in safety, but you need help immediately, police forces across Wales will respond to a silent 999 call – dial 999 followed by 55 to indicate that you can't talk, but need help.

Citizen's Advice: [What coronavirus means for you](#)

[Information from the Welsh Government about vulnerable children and safeguarding during the coronavirus pandemic.](#)

## Health Updates

[Information for shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable from COVID-19.](#)

# Welsh Government and Public Health Wales

Welsh Government's guidance for [help if you're made redundant](#), called the ReAct programme.

Written Statement from Vaughan Gething AM, Minister for Health and Social services: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Testing Update](#)

Written Statement from Julie Morgan AM, Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services: [Childcare Offer for Wales – Supporting Critical Workers during the Coronavirus Pandemic](#)

## Mental Well-being Updates

[Domestic abuse calls up 25% since lockdown](#)

Coronavirus and mental health: [Tips, advice and guidance on where you can get support for your mental health during the coronavirus pandemic](#)

Supporting Your Child During The Coronavirus Pandemic: [Tips, advice and where to get support for your child's mental health during the coronavirus](#)

## Education Updates

[Guidance for schools on safeguarding children during the coronavirus pandemic.](#)

[Free school meal vouchers to continue over Easter holidays.](#)

## Finance Updates

BBC explains: [What does it mean if I have been furloughed by work?](#)

Calls for child benefit to be raised by £10 per child- End Child Poverty (UK) and many individual member organisations have written to the Chancellor asking for him to raise child benefit by £10 per child. Increasing income for families already in poverty and for those who are now facing financial difficulties as a consequence of the crisis is essential, with child benefit being an easy and effective means of doing this. The letter is available at <https://cpag.org.uk/file/4860/download>

[Welsh Government's £100 million Development Bank of Wales loan scheme fully subscribed in first week](#)

[Welsh Government will provide new funding for voluntary organisations, both at the forefront of the Coronavirus support efforts, and for the many that will be hit financially by the crisis.](#)

## Policy, Research and Information

First survey of its kind by [Save the Children](#) reveals children's concerns about the Coronavirus outbreak, with 58% fearful of family members falling ill and 1 in 4 worried about food shortages and 56% of parents worried about their children's mental health. Find out more [here](#).

The [Wales Coronavirus Resilience Fund](#) has been established to assist groups and organisations that are adapting their services and support to individuals and families, whether singly or collectively, affected by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Save the Children has announced a new emergency grants programme in the UK to respond to the crisis. The programme will help families have access to early learning resources, as well as goods like tables and beds, to help build home environments in which children can continue learn and thrive.

Save the Children has also set up an online resource hub The Den, providing a range of creative resources and activities. These include ideas for keeping children calm and connected, creative play and a corona-free zone including stories of happiness and hope from children across the world. [For further information please visit: www.savethechildren.org.uk](#)

[To access The Den visit: https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/the-den](https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/the-den)